# A Rural Survey in Maryland

MADE BY THE

DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH AND COUNTRY LIFE

OF THE

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE U. S. A.

Warren H. Wilson, Ph.D., *Superintendent*
Anna B. Taft, *Assistant Superintendent*

156 Fifth Avenue, New York City



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The Field Work in this investigation was done by E. Fred Eastman
and Hermann N. Morse

THE LURE OF THE COUNTRY

# A Maryland Survey

This report embodies the results of a Sociological Survey of Montgomery County, Maryland, which was undertaken by this department at the instance, and conducted under the auspices, of The Montgomery County Country Life Committee. Hence an introductory word as to the origin and nature of this committee is not out of place here. In September, 1911, the Hon. Willet M. Hays, Assistant Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, invited 53 representative men and women, residents of Montgomery County, to meet at his home to consider the feasibility of organizing a Country Life Federation for the County. In order that the form of organization to be adopted might be wrought out with the good of the *farming community as a whole* for its prime purpose, the choice of those invited to attend was based upon geographical distribution, 17 centres being recognized and three or four selected from each centre. As a result of this meeting, which was held on September 29, the Montgomery County Country Life Committee was provisionally organized, with the avowed aim of making Montgomery County the *Model Rural County of the United States.* In the judgement of the committee, the first necessary step toward this end, without which no other step could well be taken, was to determine the exact present status of affairs in the county. In accordance with this idea, its first official act was to decide upon the undertaking of a Sociological Survey, with the end in view of obtaining, as a scientific basis for future work of improvement, accurate information concerning the prevailing economic, social, educational and religious conditions throughout the county. The following resolution was adopted: "Resolved: That the Montgomery County Country Life Committee invite the Presbyterian Department of Church and Country Life, and the Interstate Executive Committee of the Y. M. C. A. of Delaware, Maryland, and District of Columbia, to assist in making a Social Life Survey of Montgomery County." The Interstate Y. M. C. A. was to coöperate by raising funds to pay part of the expenses of the survey. The actual work of investigation was undertaken for the Presbyterian Department of Church and Country Life by the Superintendent, Dr. Warren H. Wilson. The department also met the bulk of the expense and published the results. Two field investigators, E. Fred Eastman and Hermann N. Morse, were detailed for this work which was begun in January, 1912, and finished in April.

The Investigators desire at this point to express their personal thanks, and the thanks of the Department of Church and Country Life, to all those whose assistance and unfailing kindness made their work possible of accomplishment. Maryland hospitality is *not* an over-praised institution, as they discovered to their complete satisfaction.

In particular, they are under obligations to the members of the Country Life Committee, to its founder, Prof. Hays, and to its Secretary, Mr. Earle B. Wood, the County Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Wood's assistance, which was important for every branch of the survey, was of especial aid in making the study of the schools complete and accurate. Thanks are also due to Mr. A. C. Monahan of the United States Bureau of Education for counsel and assistance.

## LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

### Foreword

A certain historic interest attaches to the county. It was born with the Republic, being formed out of the "Lower District of Frederick" in 1776. Its part in all the wars the United States has waged, including the Revolution, has been an honorable one, and it has also furnished its share of those who have had charge of the destinies of both nation and state. The village of Brookeville was at one time temporary Capital of the United States. Citizens of Rockville point out an old tavern, still standing, where George Washington was once entertained, and in which the first Court convened under the Republic in the county held its sessions.

### Location

Montgomery County has the natural advantage of a location both beautiful and economically convenient. It lies along the Potomac from the District of Columbia to the Monococy River. The adjoining Maryland Counties are Frederick, Howard, and Prince George's. The District of Columbia and Loudon and Fairfax Counties, Virginia, form the remainder of its boundary line. The greatest dimension of the county is from Harrison's Island in the Potomac due East to the Pautuxent River at the point where Montgomery, Howard and Prince George's Counties meet, a distance of about 35 miles; while a line drawn from the northernmost point of the county due south to Cabin John on the Potomac would measure 26 miles. The total area of the county is estimated as 521 square miles.

### Civil Divisions

The county is divided into 13 minor civil divisions called Election Districts. These are, in the order of their numerical sequence, Laytonsville, Clarksburg, Poolesville, Rockville, Colesville, Darnestown,

Bethesda, Olney, Gaithersburg, Potomac, Barnesville, Damascus and Wheaton. The town of Rockville in the Rockville District is the County Seat.

### Topography

In general, the land is high and its surface is rolling, in some sections quite hilly. The average height above mean sea level for the whole county is approximately 431.5 feet, the highest point being in the Damascus District, 822 feet. The centres of population are almost always the highest points in their respective neighborhoods. Generally speaking, the towns are so situated that the land slopes off in every direction. The following tables give the average height above mean sea level for the Districts and the elevation of the towns and villages within the Districts.

| District | Average Height Above Mean Sea Level |
|---|---|
| Laytonsville | 528.6 ft. |
| Clarksburg | 560. " |
| Poolesville | 319. " |
| Rockville | 391. " |
| Colesville | 474.6 " |
| Darnestown | 342.9 " |
| Bethesda | 282.2 " |
| Olney | 449. " |
| Gaithersburg | 429.1 " |
| Potomac | 329.6 " |
| Barnesville | 475. " |
| Damascus | 665.5 " |
| Wheaton | 342.9 " |

| Village or Town | Height Above Mean Sea Level |
|---|---|
| Laytonsville | 615 ft. |
| Clarksburg | 661 " |
| Poolesville | 390 " |
| Martinsburg | 413 " |
| Rockville | 451 " |
| Spencerville | 516 " |
| Burtonsville | 500 " |
| Quince Orchard | 435 " |
| Darnestown | 400 " |
| Chevy Chase | 300 " |
| Olney | 544 " |
| Sandy Spring | 500 " |
| Gaithersburg | 508 " |
| Germantown | 475 " |
| Potomac | 364 " |
| Barnesville | 575 " |
| Boyds | 400 " |
| Damascus | 787 " |
| Wheaton | 459 " |

As is usually the case with rolling, partially-wooded land, the country has much picturesque scenery. Almost every hill-top is a vantage point for the viewing of rich and varied country. In every direction it is dissected by creeks and runs, none of very startling proportions, but all, from the great Seneca (the only one dignified by the name 'river') down to the tiniest brook, adding to the beauty of the scene. For 35 miles of its length, the Potomac lies within the bounds of the county, whose limits include both banks, while the Pautuxent River marks the entire length of the line between Montgomery and Howard Counties. The Great Falls of the Potomac, considered one of the largest available

REFLECTIONS

water powers in the world, which could supply the City of Washington, are no less remarkable for their beauty than for their commercial value. The Cabin John Bridge over a stream leading into the Potomac is the second longest single span bridge in the world and is a noteworthy sight. Throughout much of the county, the combination of profitable farming and a generally high level of culture and education among the farmers has made for a county of attractive homes and well-kept farms where beauty is not neglected in the struggle for utility.

## ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

### Foreword

Montgomery County has always been primarily an agricultural County. From the day of its first settlers until now its wealth has been drawn from its soil. Of late new forces have begun to operate. The Suburbanite has come into certain sections, has set a new, and from the farmer's point of view, a fictitious value on the land, and large areas have been turned over to him for his home, his club house and his park. This 'suburbanizing' process will go on, but it will be limited in its extent. In the future as in the past, the prosperity of the county over at least two thirds of its area must depend upon the success of its farming operations.

When the soil of the county was virgin its staple products were corn and tobacco and the yield was abundant. After the fashion of pioneer farming, the land was repeatedly sown to these profitable crops until the strength of what was naturally rather rich soil was exhausted. Nothing was ever given back to the land and farming suffered. Toward the beginning of the nineteenth century, emigration to the newer lands of the West and South set in, as the direct result of an agricultural system which could no longer get enough from the soil to support its population. This increasing economic pressure marked the passing of the day of "the old tobacco planters, with their baronial estates and armies of slaves. They (what time they flourished), felled the native forests and planted the virgin soil in tobacco and Indian corn. They did very well so long as there was timber for the ax and new land for the hoe; and these old lords of the manor were happy. They feasted and frolicked and fox-hunted and made the most of life. Those days were known as 'the good old times.'

In less than a century after this system of denuding and exhaustion began there were no more forests to clear and no more new land to till. Then succeeded the period of old fields, decaying worm fences and mouldering homesteads. This sad condition of the county had reached its climax about the year 1840. . . . The land would no longer yield an increase, and they made no attempt at renovating and improving the soil, and Montgomery lands became a synonym for poverty."*

The population, over the first four decades of the last century, showed a net decrease of more than 14%. Land values decreased, in some cases almost to the vanishing point, and the fortunes of the county were at low ebb. As one instance of this condition, in the early forties a large tract of land in the Sandy Spring neighborhood (a tract now occupied by fine farms) was sold at $2.05 an acre, and the opinion was expressed that this was $2.04 too high. In the first experiment with wheat on this land, its new owner sowed 8 bushels in a certain field and reaped but 5. It was in this neighborhood, among the society of Friends, that this characteristically pioneer method of farming was first abandoned. In 1845, the man above referred to, sowed Peruvian Guano with his wheat, and marked improvements were at once seen to follow its use, which soon became general. With the continued employment of this and other commercial fertilizers and with a change to rotative cropping the fertility of the soil returned, and with it came population and prosperity. During the second four decades of the nineteenth century, the population made a net increase of about 55%. The progress of the county has thus depended upon its success in making its farms productive.



* Boyd's History, 107, 108.

## ECONOMIC RESOURCES

### (a) Natural Resources

*Mineral*: There are only two mineral resources to be mentioned, gold and building stone. Neither of these is at present of very great commercial importance. It has long been a tradition in many parts of the county that gold was to be found there. In several localities there has been some prospecting. In all but one instance this has come to nothing. The Sandy Spring Annalist, speaking for that neighborhood, expresses the situation for most of the county, when she writes of "the inevitable three degrees of mining speculation in this vicinity—positive, mine; comparative, minor; superlative, minus." In the Potomac District, however, gold-mining has been somewhat more profitable. Here there are two gold-mines not far from the Great Falls of the Potomac River which have been worked intermittently since 1887. From $40,000 to $50,000 worth of gold is said to have been taken from them to date. A report on this property by a geological expert states that "at the present time the property is still in the prospective stage as the development work so far performed is confined to the surface. The work done on the main vain has demonstrated satisfactory gold values in several places. . . . There is no geological reason why gold should not be

A GOOD FARM BARN

here." Work on the mines is now being carried on, and the company owning the property announces extensive work of improvement and development for the near future.

Marketable stone is found in at least five districts of the county—Potomac, Darnestown, Gaithersburg, Poolesville and Barnesville. There are quarries of some little importance at Seneca, Gaithersburg and Dickerson. Much of this stone has value for building purposes. A considerable amount has been shipped from the Seneca quarries and many buildings in Washington City including The Smithsonian Institute and The Georgetown College are made of this stone. These quarries are now becoming exhausted. The Potomac and Poolesville stone has commercial value but is not very extensively marketed. The Gaithersburg quarry is small, but turns out a good quality of stone. The quarry at Dickerson produces and ships in considerable quantities a very hard, durable stone used chiefly for roadtopping.

*Vegetable:* For the county as a whole, the soil is chiefly adapted to the raising of corn, wheat and forage crops. In certain districts, these staples are supplemented by oats, rye, tobacco, potatoes, garden vegetables, small fruits and apples.

*Other:* There is a great deal of clay in the county which apparently could be profitably used for brick making. But little use is made of it for this purpose; less now, perhaps, than formerly.

### (b) Developed Resources

*Farming Industry:* The farm is the county's great wealth producer. A large proportion of the money invested is invested in farm lands and property. Over 90% of the population get their living directly or indirectly from the soil.

*Other Productive Agencies:* Montgomery is not to any considerable extent a manufacturing county. There are, however, a canning factory, a rope factory, a carriage factory, and several marble and granite works. A dozen or more grist mills, equipped variously with water, steam and electric power, furnish a local market for a limited amount of grain.

## THE BUSINESS OF FARMING

### (a) Assets

(1) The total land area of the county is approximately 333,440 acres. 82% of this, or 273,270 acres, is in farms. In 1900 the area in farms was about 10,000 acres greater. 76.5% of the farm land or 209,153 acres is improved. Of the remaining 64,117 acres, 59,409 acres are in woodland, leaving only 4,708 acres neither wooded nor improved.

(2) *Value:* The total value of all farm property is about $21,000,000 an increase of over 38% in ten years. Table No. 1, (Appendix, page I), from the 1910 United States Census shows how this value is distributed.

The average value of land per acre for the total farming area of the county is $46.39, as against $33.48 in 1900, an increase of 38.3%. This increase, however, varies greatly in different sections, and so does the present value. The land which is still farmed within the sections now enjoying extensive suburban development (a question which will be taken up later) has for the most part by that fact received an increase in market value all out of proportion to its value for farming purposes. Location, rather than intrinsic value has been in all cases the determining factor. Much of the land adjacent to the Railroad, even in the upper end of the county where the development has been slower, has increased in value 50 to 80%. This is true also of land adjacent to the newer pikes, where the increase has often been rapid. In parts of the county less favorably situated the increase has been proportionately small. Damascus District and parts of the Barnesville and Clarksburg Districts are examples of this. In general, farm land has proven a good investment. Not much of it is for sale. When offered, it usually finds a ready purchaser. Moreover, with the increased facilities of transportation that will surely come, with the improved methods of farming which every decade brings, and with the steady development of the available markets, it is reasonable to expect that the value of farm land will continue to increase. There has been no very marked tendency to speculate in farm lands for farming purposes. The farm is usually regarded as a home rather than as an investment. What speculation there has been has had an eye to possible suburban development.

(3) *How the Land is Held.* There are in all 2,432 farms in the county, of which 2,093 or 85.7% are operated by white farmers and 349 or 14.3% are operated by colored farmers. Of those operated by white farmers, 2,042 are operated by native-born, and 51 by foreign-born whites. At present the average size of the farms is about 112 acres, but they are tending to become smaller. In 1900 with 10,000 acres more in farms, there were 357 fewer farmers, making the average size of the farms at that time 136 acres. Apparently, the increased value of the land, and the ever increasing difficulty of obtaining good farm labor are not only causing the breaking up of the very large farms, but are also considerably increasing the number of very small farms. Then too, there is a greater amount of truck farming, which does not require as much land for profitable operation as general farming. Thirty-nine per cent. of all the farms have less than 50 acres each. The farms operated by colored farmers are on the whole much smaller than those operated by the white. 69.3% of all colored farmers have 19 acres or less. (See Diagram No. 1 on opposite page and Table No. 2, Appendix, page I).

The study of the kind of tenure reveals some rather significant facts; (See Table No. 3, Appendix, page I,) 75.4% of all farms

are operated by those who own the land in whole or in part. 21.4% are operated by tenants. This is an increase of .5% in the amount of tenantry during ten years, and of 6.2% since 1890; a small degree of change to be sure, but a change in the wrong direction. In at least two districts, Laytonsville and Potomac, the amount of tenantry has been increased appreciably during five or six years, and has meant a poorer and less profitable grade of farming, and a gradual appreciation of the soil. On the face of the returns, the per cent. of farms operated by owners, 75.4%, seems like a fair proportion. *These farms, however, only represent 55% of the total acreage of farm land, and the same per cent. of the total value of farm property.* That is to say, a much greater proportion of the small farms are operated by their owners than of the large ones. Of the farms of 19 acres or less, 88.6% are operated by owners; of those of 19–99 acres, 74.5% are so operated; of those of 100–259 acres, 60.3%; of those of more than 259 acres, 51.8%. Speaking broadly, it is common experience that under a system of tenantry the land is usually not so well farmed as when operated by its owners. The tenant usually has but a short lease on the land; inferior methods of farming are apt to be employed; the needs of the soil are not so carefully studied or attended to; there is generally a smaller working capital; the cost of operation is somewhat greater. In consequence, the property is not kept up; the fertility of the soil is seldom increased or even main-

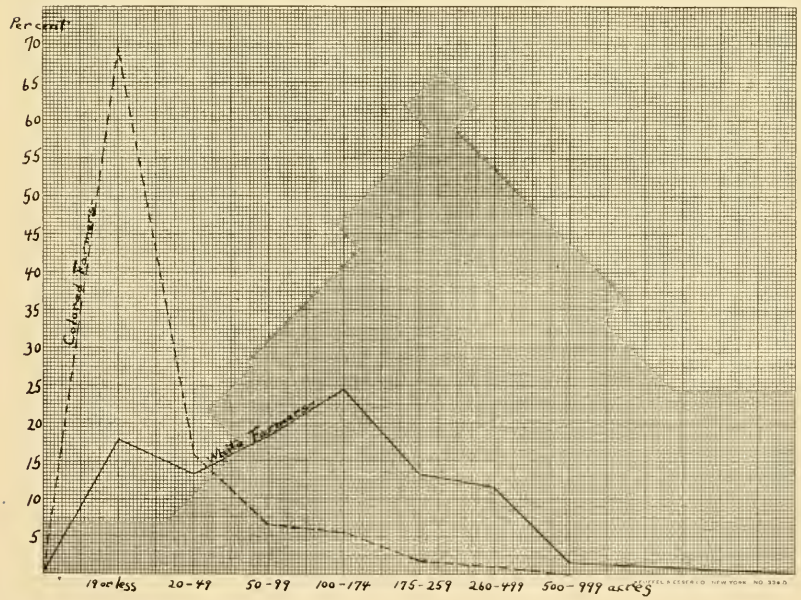


DIAGRAM NO. I—HOW THE LAND IS HELD BY SIZE OF FARMS

tained; and in the long run, the net income is smaller. To have 45% of the land operated under a tenant system and to have that system on the increase, would then seem to present a problem worthy of consideration. The obvious solution would be along the line of aiding the present operators to obtain the ownership of the land. In Europe and to a lesser extent in some parts of the United States this need is met by an ably managed and extensive system of coöperative banking.

Another interesting angle of this question has to do with the *length* of tenure. The average length of tenure for all farms is 12.4 years. *But more than half of the farms and considerably more than half of the total acreage of farm lands, have changed hands at least once during the last ten years.* This means an unstable element in the population large enough to cause concern. For all owned land, the average term of occupancy is 15 years, but for land operated by tenants, the average term of occupancy is only 4 years. *One fourth of the entire farming population, then, is shifting,* a fact which must necessarily hamper all efforts toward the betterment of rural life conditions along social, religious and educational lines.

Sixty-two per cent. of all farms operated by their owners are held free of mortgage debt. A slightly larger per cent. of white farmers than of colored farmers carry a mortgage debt, a fact more than offset by the greater size and better equipment of the farms of the white farmers. The amount of the mortgage debt where reported was about 32% of the total value of the land and buildings. The *age* of the farmers is of interest in this connection. Table No. 4, (Appendix, page I), shows the number of farmers, white and colored, coming within the different age groups.

Diagrams Nos. II and III, show the proportion of the farmers within each age group who are farm owners, with or without mortgage indebtedness, or tenants. For the white farmers, certain things should be noticed as follows: the proportion of farmers in each given age-group who own farms without mortgage indebtedness increases as the age increases, so that while only 12% of those under 24 years of age have unmortgaged farms, in the four following age groups the per-cents. are respectively 19.4, 32.7, 48 and 58, and of all those over 64 years of age, 67% come within this class. The proportion of each age-group who own farms with mortgage indebtedness increases through the first three groups, and then decreases through the succeeding groups, the highest proportion being in the group 35–44 years of age, 31% of these coming within this class. Lastly the proportion of each age group who are tenants decreases rapidly through the successive groups; 64% of all farmers under 25 years of age are tenants, the per-cents. in the four following groups are respectively 44, 24, 13, 12, while all over 64 years of age only

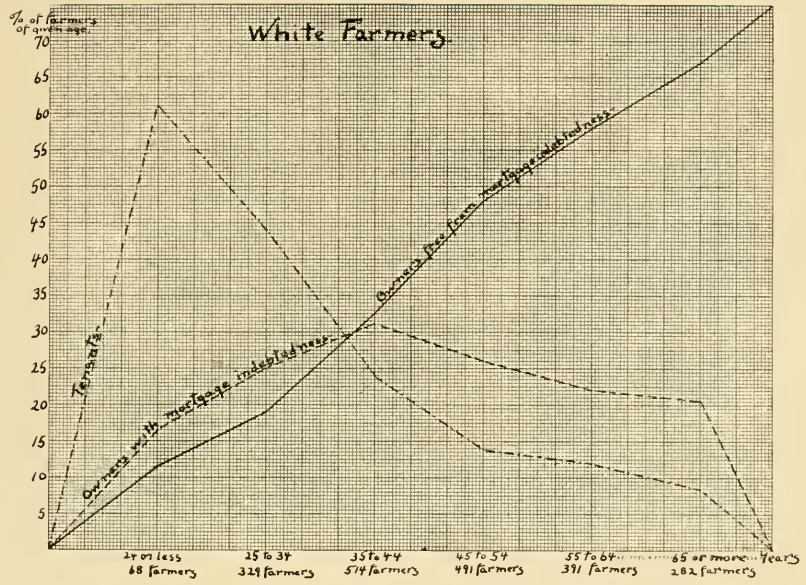


DIAGRAM NO. II

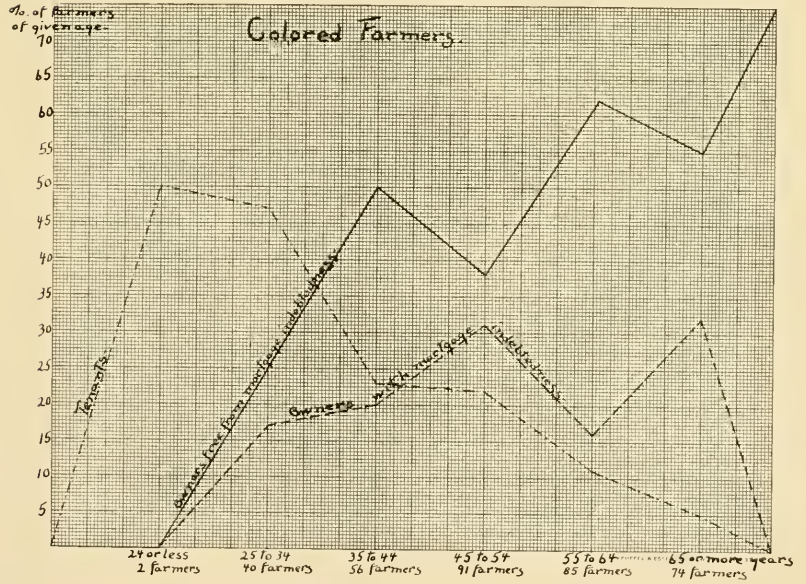


DIAGRAM NO. III

HOW THE LAND IS HELD BY AGE OF FARMERS AND KIND OF TENURE

7% are tenants. For the colored farmers, the most important difference is that shown by the line indicating the proportion who own farms with mortgage indebtedness; it will be noticed that the per-cent. for the last group (65 years and over) is greater than for any of the preceding groups. The proportion of tenantry here, as with the white farmers decreases as the age increases.

The inferences from these figures are: that there is a constant tendency for tenant farmers to acquire ownership in land; that this is accomplished by means of borrowed capital, a mortgage being given as security; that a large proportion of the white farmers are able to pay off this indebtedness; and that the colored farmers secure their land later in life and are less able to free themselves from debt.

(4) *How the Farms are Stocked.* Two thousand three hundred and one farms reported domestic animals with a total valuation of $2,163,518 (1910 United States Census, Table No. 5, Appendix, page II). In 1890, all holdings in domestic animals and poultry were valued at $1,249,790. From 1890–1910, there was a decided increase in the number of horses, dairy cows, and sheep on the farms, but a decrease in the number of beef cattle, swine and poultry.

There are many fine draft horses in the county. Twenty-five years or more ago a number of Percheron Stallions were imported, and since that time there has been considerable up-grading in all parts of the county, with the result that at present one can see almost any number of splendid, heavy four or six horse teams. Good driving horses are much scarcer, as but little attention has been paid to the breeding of roadsters.

### (b) Output

(1) *General Farming.* The crops showing the largest acreage and yield are corn, wheat, hay and forage. (1910 census, Table No. 6, Appendix, page II.)

The census crop reports for 1890 and 1900 show that there has been an appreciable increase in the production of all staple crops with the exception of hay and forage.

The *money* crops, vary somewhat in the different districts. Wheat and hay are money crops throughout the county. In the Laytonsville, Gaithersburg, and Wheaton districts, and in parts of Olney and Colesville, most of the corn raised is fed. Through the remainder of the county, corn is a money crop. In Colesville, Wheaton and Olney, and to a less extent in Laytonsville, potatoes are an important crop. Some rye is raised in Clarksburg, and oats in Damascus. In Poolesville and Damascus, straw is a source of income. In Damascus, the chief money crop is tobacco; in Clarksburg, 20% of the farms, mostly toward the

Damascus line, raise tobacco. The average yield on these products for all land sown is fairly constant throughout all the county. For the ordinarily good land, this would run about 18 to 30 bushels for wheat, 150 bushels for potatoes, 10 to 14 barrels of corn, 1½ tons of hay, 1,200 to 1,300 pounds for burley tobacco, and 700 pounds for all other tobacco. The average for the entire county, including as it must, all the poor land planted, is not so high.

(2) *Specialized Farming: Stock Feeding.* In five districts, viz., Clarksburg, Rockville, Colesville, Potomac and Bethesda, there is little or no stock feeding. Through the remainder of the county it is a more or less important industry. Laytonsville, Gaithersburg and Olney lead in this respect. Sixty or seventy car loads of stock are shipped into the the town of Gaithersburg yearly, and are bought up by the farmers living within seven or eight miles, averaging about 15 or 18 head to the farm, 90% of the farms within that radius sharing in the distribution. In the Olney district, 75% feed 10 to 20 head. In Poolesville, 25% feed 10 to 15 head. In Darnestown and Barnesville, 10% feed stock. In Damascus, many feed a little, but it is not an extensive industry; so also in Wheaton.

*Breeding.* In no part of the county, is stock breeding carried on to any considerable extent. Only three exclusively stock farms were found. Otherwise, most of the breeding done is for home use, to keep up the dairy herds or replenish the string of draft horses, and not for market. In Laytonsville, probably 60% of the farms breed horses and sheep to a limited extent. In Poolesville, there is some general up-grading of cattle, mostly Durham or Hereford. Through the rest of the county, there is little or no breeding except as indicated above.

*Dairying.* In the eastern and southern ends of the county, and along the entire length of the B. & O. Railroad dairying is an important industry. There are at present, from ten to twelve thousand dairy cows in the county. During the last two or three years, the tuberculine test has been administered to all herds whose milk is shipped to the District of Columbia (and practically all the milk is shipped there.) The method of administering the test has been considered by many dairymen very unfair, and decidedly unsatisfactory. Many cows have been condemned, and the farmers have received no compensation for their loss. In consequence, the dairy business in some sections is not as prosperous and thriving as it was. It still remains, however, a very important source of income for the county. The districts doing little or no dairying are Darnestown, Poolesville and Damascus, though in each of the first two named there are a few farms running dairies on a small scale. The sections most important in this connection are as follows: the parts of Barnesville, Clarksburg, Gaithersburg, Laytonsville, and Rockville

WHERE TRAVEL IS EASY

which are within three miles of the railroad; here probably 50% of the farmers are engaged in dairying to some extent; also the part of Olney known as the Sandy Spring neighborhood, two-thirds of Colesville, and Wheaton below Lay Hill; here a large proportion of the farmers count this one of their chief sources of income. The number of exclusively dairy farms is relatively small. In the larger number of cases, the dairying is done in connection with general farming, though many make it their speciality.

*Fruit Raising.* The county is well adapted to the raising of fruit, particularly apples, but this is still an industry of the future. Peaches are raised very little, the "yellows" having proven troublesome. In the vicinity of Sandy Spring, many apple orchards have been set out within the last few years, and interest in this branch of farming is growing rapidly. In Rockville district, there is one large fruit farm and a half-dozen other farms have each from 4 to 10 acres of trees. In certain other sections, notably Gaithersburg district, there are a number of young apple orchards. Through the rest of the county, little fruit is raised except for home consumption.

*Small Farming.* In certain sections adjacent to the railroad (viz. parts of Clarksburg, Barnesville, Gaithersburg and Darnestown), in the

lower and eastern parts of Colesville, in Bethesda, Potomac, and the lower part of Wheaton, there is considerable market gardening for the Washington market. Colesville ships a considerable quantity of berries In Wheaton, Colesville, and Damascus, and to some extent in other sections, eggs are an important product.

### (c) Farm Expenses

(1) The census, on the basis of a limited number of farms, estimates the average annual expenditures per farm as follows: cash for labor, $279, rent and board furnished, $103, feed, $136, fertilizer, $124. (See Table No. 7, Appendix, page II.)

(2) *Labor.* The wage for day labor varies from 75 cents and board to $1.50, the average being about $1.00. Month labor costs from $12.00 with house and allowance to $30.00, the average being about $18.00. Everywhere the same complaint is made, that it is hard to get sufficient labor, and that what can be had is for the most part very poor. There is not much white labor in the county. Potomac, Barnesville and Wheaton Districts report a fair proportion of white labor. Through the rest of the county it is mostly colored.

The laborer here appears to have but little opportunity to better his condition. In the upper end of the county, a number are reported to have acquired farms during the last ten years, but this is far from the rule. Generally speaking, their prospects of economic advancement are almost nil. Their usual treatment from their employers is that of inferiors with good care. An exception is made in certain districts, notably Darnestown, Potomac, Barnesville and Damascus, in the case of the white laborer, who is often accepted as an equal by his employer.

### (d) Farm Methods

(1) *Rotation of Crops.* The usual rotation practised throughout the county is a five field rotation, and consists of, first year, corn; second and third years, wheat; fourth and fifth years, grass. This seems to be the rotation best adapted to the prevailing conditions. The commonest method is to plant corn, then sow wheat in the stubble, then fallow the ground and sow to wheat again, then sow to grass for two years (three sometimes if a good set is not obtained in two). This rotation is varied somewhat where there are special circumstances to be considered, as in the tobacco sections, or where dairying is chiefly engaged in. But the greater part of the farmers adhere to something like this procedure, and the results seem to be quite satisfactory.

(2) *Farm Machinery.* In general the farms may be said to be equipped with all the best modern machinery which can be used to advantage on medium or small sized farms under the prevailing conditions (such as

hilly or rolling land, or stony ground). To be sure, most of the farmers still walk behind their cultivators and their plows; but modern reapers, drills, potato planters, tedders, hay loaders, etc., are widely employed. The binders, drills and wagons are practically always housed when not in use, and over the whole county, probably 75 to 90% of all other machinery is similarly cared for. On the farms operated by tenants the quality of the machinery is not usually as high as on the other farms, and not quite such good care is taken of it.

(3) *The Use of Fertilizer.* It is literally true that the county owes its present prosperity to the widespread use of fertilizers. There are few farms that over any length of time could produce even half crops without fertilizing. All fertilize for wheat, usually 400 to 600 pounds to the acre, and also for tobacco, about the same amount. Perhaps 75% fertilize for potatoes, while a comparatively small proportion fertilize for corn and grass, the amount used in these cases varying. Speaking for the county as a whole it is necessary to lime very heavily, but the soil of the county is so varied that the particular fertilizer ingredients required differ in different districts. The extensive stock-feeding and dairying of some sections make the use of commercial fertilizers less necessary in those parts.

(4) *Drainage.* The land does not require a great deal of artificial drainage. Where drainage is required, it is usually accomplished by pole and stone or blind ditch. In Poolesville, Rockville, and Wheaton districts a considerable amount of tile is used.

### Montgomery, Compared with Other Counties in Maryland

In Montgomery County we have said that 75.4% of the farms were operated by their owners and called attention to the misfortune of having one fourth of the farms operated by tenants. However, the showing of the county in this respect is better than the showing of the state as a whole. The per cent. of the farms operated by owners for the entire state is 68.5. Only five counties have a larger proportion of their farms so operated than Montgomery County.

In Montgomery County, 82% of the land area is in farms, 75.6% of the farm land is improved and the farms average 111.9 acres to the farm. For the entire state, 79.5% of the land area is in farms, 66.3% of the farm land is improved and the farms average 103.4 acres to the farm. In Montgomery County the total average value of each farm is $8,542, and the average value of the land is $46.39 per acre. For the entire state, the average value of a farm is $5,849 and the average value per acre is $32.32.

(5) *Miscellaneous.* In their general appearance the farms are usually very attractive. The county is characterized by neat farming. There

is often considerable difference between the farms of the white and the colored farmers at this point; but of the majority of the farms it is true that the fields are well kept, the fences are in good repair, the farm buildings are ample in size and well put up, and the whole impression is that of good farm-keeping. The small negro settlements, the tenant houses, and the cross-road stores seldom contribute very materially to the beauty of the scene, but there is some compensation in the contrasts afforded.

In at least one respect, the county seems prodigal. The investigators came from that part of the world where farmers consider two horses a team able to haul almost anything that you ought to load on a wagon. It was an inspiring sight to them on almost every drive through the country to meet numbers of four and six horse teams, great, powerful-looking horses, hauling anything from a half-dozen sacks of wheat to large loads of grain or hay. Certainly it can not be said that the horses are overworked.

### (e) Coöperative Tendencies in Farming

One of the most obvious criticisms of rural life is its voluntary isolation, and the difficulty of obtaining anything like coöperation among

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the farmers in the matters which most vitally concern them. Very few rural communities can be said to be adequately organized. In Montgomery County the first steps have been taken toward this adequate organization. It is not our present purpose to discuss the social organization of the various communities, though certain aspects of this, as the organization into Farmers' Clubs, have economic importance. We are here interested in those forms of organization whose *primary* bearing is economic.

(1) *The Tobacco Growers' Association.* This association, which includes the tobacco growers of Frederick, Howard, Carroll and Montgomery Counties, was organized seven years ago. A large part of its work has been educational. It is in no sense an attempt to pool the tobacco output of these counties with a view to controlling the price. It has encouraged better methods of production and care of the tobacco; it has advocated honest packing, both as to weight and uniformity of quality and in this connection employed a grader for a period of time; it investigates market conditions and recommends to its members some reliable firm to handle their output. Its effects have been almost to double the crop yield through the improved methods of cultivation, and to increase the price about one third by gaining the confidence of the buyers in the quality of the tobacco and the fairness of its packing.

(2) *The Milk Producers' Association* of Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. This association represents about 20,000 dairy cows of which at least two-fifths are owned in Montgomery County. The total membership is about 450. There is at present no attempt to fix prices of dairy products. The work of the association is to advocate better legislation, protest against imposition of any sort, discuss and encourage improved methods of handling the herds and in general, better the conditions under which the dairymen work.

(3) *The Sandy Spring Fruit Growers' Association.* This association has just been formed with twenty-six members, and represents at present about 15,000 trees. Most of the orchards are still young so naturally its work in the immediate future must be largely educational. The purpose of the association is described by its constitution as follows: (1) To disseminate scientific information; (2) to secure advantageous legislation; (3) to secure improved transportation facilities; (4) to secure a uniform system of packing and package; (5) to develop and open up markets. To this it may be added that when the orchards generally begin to bear, the association plans to undertake coöperative selling of its products through an agent, at which time it will probably be chartered.

(4) *The Grange.* There are three branches of the Grange in the county, two in the Olney District and one in the Colesville District, with a total membership of about 180. Though a considerable part

of the importance of the Grange is due to its social functions (typified by the enormous dinner which is always a feature of its meeting) it has also economic importance. It provides an opportunity for discussion of improved farm methods; it is a medium for the expression of opinions on matters relating to the welfare of the community; its executive committee does an amount of coöperative buying for its members, of household articles, farm machinery, fertilizer, etc.

(5) *Farmers' Clubs.* There are five Farmers' Clubs in the county; three in the Sandy Spring Neighborhood, one in the Laytonsville District and one in the Colesville District. These clubs have had a very important part in the development of farming in the county. Open discussions of all matters connected with the business of farming, with agricultural methods and with farm life are features of the meetings. This has made possible a higher grade of farming and has induced a more thorough understanding and more complete coöperation amongst the farmers concerned.

(6) *Open Meetings.* An annual Farmers' Convention is held in the Lyceum Hall at Sandy Spring. Last year about 200 were in attendance. These gatherings are more representative of Sandy Spring than of the entire county, but at least they are a short step toward better and more general coöperation, and every little step helps.

The County Fair Association has an open membership of over 200. It owns large Fair Grounds at Rockville, and holds an annual Fair in September. The attendance is usually very good in spite of the fact that rain is generally a feature. To the latter circumstance is due the fact that the association is rather heavily in debt at present. The uses of the County Fair are many, but are too well known to require comment here.

(7) There is one interesting instance of coöperative farming in the Colesville District, namely the Commonwealth Farm, which is owned and operated by a syndicate of Washington women, who conduct their affairs very successfully. It is rumored that they get on entirely without masculine counsel or assistance.

These instances of coöperation, scattering and insufficient as they are, are nevertheless very significant. If it is true, as seems to us incontestable, that it is to organized coöperation that the farmers must look if they would materially better their present circumstances, these present beginnings are big with possibilities for the future and indicate a way which must be more and more generally followed.

### (f) Stores, Banks and Other Non-Productive Business Agencies

(1) *Stores.* There are 215 stores of various sorts in the county. Of this number, nearly two-thirds are in the open country or in small villages. This is about one store to every 150 inhabitants.

(2) *Banks.* There are at present eight banks in the county, at Poolesville, Gaithersburg, Rockville (2), Silver Spring, Kensington, Sandy Spring (2). A ninth is in process of organization, at Bethesda. These banks are all in good financial condition. Their total deposits amount to more than two and a half million dollars.

(3) *Others.* The Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County has its headquarters at Sandy Spring. On December 1, 1911 this company reported its condition as follows: gain in risks during the year, $275,648; amount of risks in force that day, $16,259,835; gain in premium notes during the year, $90,646; premium notes in force that day, $2,518,016.45.

There are about 60 blacksmith shops in the county. Of other business firms not yet mentioned in any connection, there are perhaps a dozen, including a Mutual Building and Loan Association, and several Real Estate and Insurance Houses. In addition, there are several large land companies operating in the county, but financed largely by outside capital.

### (g) Land Development for Suburban Purposes

In the lower end of Montgomery County, the conditions are almost ideal for suburban development. This is the only section adjoining the District of Columbia which is not separated from it by marshy ground. The prime requisites of a suburb are, first, a location both convenient and naturally attractive, second, good transportation facilities at a moderate rate, and third, satisfactory local conditions, as to sanitation, lighting, local government, etc. These requisities are all met here.

The development has taken place chiefly in the Wheaton and Bethesda Districts. In Bethesda the greater part of the district has been taken up for this purpose. Relatively little farming is done here now. Most of the land that has not already been subdivided, has either been bought up and is held awaiting development, or is valued at so high a figure that farming is no longer profitable. The land is for the most part rather level and open and comparatively unwooded; the ridge or watershed through the district affords good natural drainage and excellent water supply. Gas and electricity are available in most sections. A great deal of wealth has been invested here. Chevy Chase, for example, is Washington's most aristocratic and fashionable suburb; its Country Clubs are among the largest in the country, with grounds that are unsurpassed anywhere. Except for Chevy Chase and vicinity, the development is still largely in the future. One tract of 4,000 acres, extending from Chevy Chase to the Great Falls of the Potomac in a strip nine miles long and one mile wide, has just been acquired by a land corporation which announces extensive improvement in the near

future. It is planned to run a boulevard and a trolley line through the centre of the property for its entire length. Country homes of from one to ten acres each, sold under the usual restrictions, are contemplated.

In the Wheaton District, the development is taking place along somewhat different lines. About one half of the arable land here is still farmed. The subdivisions are all along the line of the B. & O. Railroad. Some farming land has been bought up by outside capital and is held in large tracts, but where development has taken place most of the land is in small holdings. A line of small towns extends along the railroad from the District of Columbia to the Rockville District. These towns are to a large extent settled by Government employees amd other salaried men. The country here is naturally very picturesque and is rather heavily wooded. All modern conveniences are available. Takoma Park is the only place in the county where really urban conditions are met with. Here the apartment house has made its appearance; there is also mail delivery to the homes, by carriers from the Washington postoffice. Part of this town lies outside the county. Taking the district as a whole, the development here has been carried farther than in Bethesda.

Rockville District has also shared in the Suburban Development to some extent. There are a number of sub-divisions along the railroad which will undoubtedly be settled up in time, but not much progress in this direction has been made as yet, and the chances are that it will come rather slowly.

BRIDGE OVER NORTH BRANCH

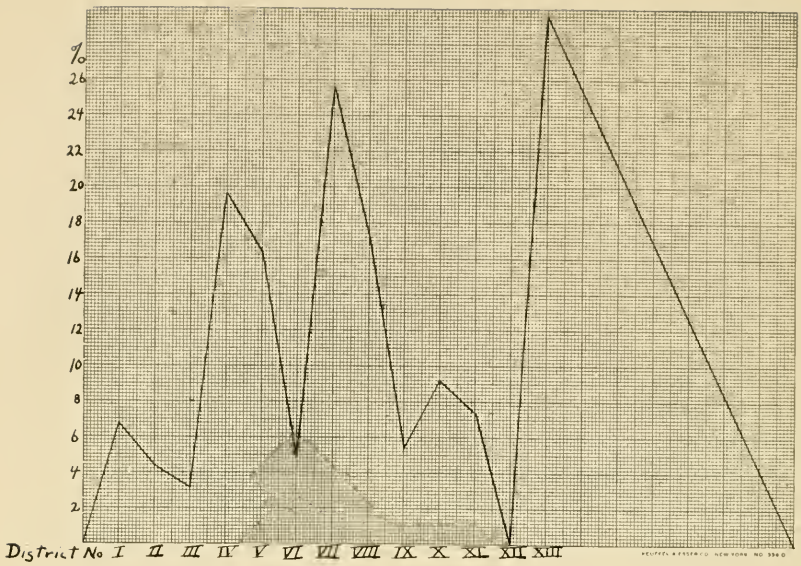



DIAGRAM NO. IV—PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MILES OF PUBLIC ROADS MACADAMIZED

## (h) Transportation and Markets

This topic involves a summary of all that is most important in the discussion of economic conditions. In the last analysis a farming community is dependent for its prosperity in the widest sense upon its markets. The fundamental rural problem is the economic problem. Good schools, good churches, developed social life, adequate recreation facilities, constant communication with outside forces and influences making for progress, and all their by-products in culture, education, comfort and efficiency, these things that make life in the open country worth while, are all dependent fundamentally upon the economic status of the community. Obviously this is a question of income. Social institutions must always be expected to occupy a second place. Those things which pertain directly to the up-keep of the farm as a producing agency must come first. If there is a sufficient margin of income, social improvements become possible.

To obtain this margin it must be in a position to dispose of its products at a fair profit. Thus great importance attaches to the question of transportation and market facilities.

(1) *Means of Transportation.* Three transportation mediums are important in this connection: the Metropolitan Branch of the B. & O. Railroad, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and the roads, particularly the stone roads. These we will discuss in the order named.

The B. & O. Branch runs out from Washington City diagonally through the county, passing through the Wheaton, Rockville, Gaithersburg, Clarksburg and Barnesville Districts, and through the towns of Takoma Park, Silver Spring, Kensington, Forest Glen, Rockville, Gaithersburg, Germantown, Boyds, Barnesville Station and Dickerson. The passenger service is convenient and reliable though the cars are mostly of a somewhat ancient type. The freight service is sufficient for the needs of the county. The road is double-tracked to a point between Gaithersburg and Germantown. It is available to about two-thirds of the county, but is of value for shipping purposes chiefly to the Rockville, Darnestown, Gaithersburg, Laytonsville, Clarksburg, Barnesville and Poolesville Districts.

The C. & O. Canal runs parallel with the Potomac River on the Montgomery County side, for the entire length of the county line from the Monocacy River to the District of Columbia. It was built primarily to transport coal from the Cumberland Mountains. Twenty years or more ago it was taken over by the B. & O. Railroad and has since been operated by them. For the 19½ miles above Seneca, there are two levels, 11½ and 8 miles long respectively; between Seneca and the District of Columbia there are 24 locks. The canal is not locally used as much now as formerly. It is chiefly important for those districts which lie along the Potomac; Poolesville, Darnestown and Potomac.

It might also be mentioned that the Southern Metropolitan Branch of the B. & O. runs through the Bethesda District, entering the county near the Potomac River, running across the lower half of the district, by Bethesda Station and Chevy Chase Lake, uniting with the Metropolitan Branch at Linden. This road is for freight only; it is not used appreciably for the marketing of farm produce, but is chiefly important for the shipping of building materials, tile, etc., into the Bethesda District

The road question is somewhat more complicated. The total number of miles of road in the county is 830. Ninety-nine miles of this total is stone road of varying degrees of excellence. Diagram No. IV on opposite page and Table No. 8, Appendix, page II, show the distribution of the roads by districts. The 99 miles of stone road are divided among twelve out of the thirteen districts. For every mile of stone road there is about 7½ miles of dirt road. The building of stone roads has for some reason proven a very expensive operation, both in the initial cost and the up-keep. All that is state and county built is relatively new and for the most part is in good condition, with excellent culverts, bridges and grades. The 24 miles of toll-road is older, and though originally very well made and with an excellent bottom, is at present rather rough, a condition not much improved by the fact that the prevailing method of repairing it appears to be to dump small stone

and a limited amount of dirt on the worn places and let the traffic crush it. The dirt roads are not necessarily bad; they have the advantage of having been laid out according to the contour of the land. But the culverts and bridges are apt to be poor; moreover, in the wet season, it saddens the soul to behold the mud; good rich, red clay of the kind that sticketh closer than a brother. The investigators experienced the joy of many long drives during the month of March, when a good horse might attain the dizzy speed of 2½ or 3 miles an hour. But the rest of the year they are not so bad, as there is little sand and much clay and stone. The roads chiefly important for marketing which may be termed good roads are as follows:

Norbeck to Rockville.
Ashton to Burtonsville.
Columbia Turnpike.
From the Sandy Spring Road to the Columbia Turnpike near Whiteoak, via Colesville.
Union Turnpike.
Ashton to Olney.
Sandy Spring to Norwood to Lay Hill to Glenmont.
Georgetown Turnpike.
Rockville to (near) Gaithersburg.
Darnestown to Gaithersburg.
Laytonsville to Gaithersburg.
Poolesville to Barnsville.
Potomac to District of Columbia.
Clarksburg to (near) Boyds.

These roads give access to Washington by stone road to the Colesville, Olney, Wheaton, Bethesda, Potomac, Rockville, Laytonsville, Gaithersburg and Darnestown Districts. The Laytonsville and Darnestown Pikes also connect with the B. & O. at Gaithersburg; the Poolesville-Barnesville Pike connects with the B. & O. at Barnesville Station, and the Norbeck Pike connects with it at Rockville.

In general, it may be said that what has made Montgomery County commercially is its proximity to the City of Washington, affording it a ready and easily accessible market for all of its products. We will now discuss in detail the methods of marketing which prevail in the different districts.

*Poolesville.* The farmers here have two mediums of transportation, the canal and the railroad. The canal is now used less and the railroad more than formerly; both, however, are important. In general it may be said that all those living between the Potomac River and a line drawn from Seneca to the mouth of the Monococy, ship by the canal. The main

shipping points are Seneca, Sycamore, Edward's Ferry and White's Ferry. There are grain elevators at all of these places. The usual custom is to sell to men on the ground, who board the produce and market it in Washington. Often the owners of the canal boats carry the grain to the city for the growers and sell it for a freight commission. One canal boat will carry about 4,000 bushels of grain, and takes one day to get to market. The farmers living in that part of the district not included in the section described above usually ship by rail. The shipping points are Dickerson, Barnesville Station, Bucklodge and Boyds. The dairymen, of whom there are a few in the north end of the District, all ship by rail, selling to middlemen in Washington. Washington is ultimately the market for all of the products of this district.

*Barnesville.* The dairymen all ship to Washington by rail, boarding it at Dickerson, Barnesville Station, Bucklodge or Boyds. The wheat is for the most part hauled to Germantown and other local elevators; little of it is shipped by the growers.

*Darnestown.* In this district three means of transportation are used, the canal, the railroad, and direct haul by wagon to Washington. In general it may be said that those living between Darnestown village and the river use the canal to market their grain, shipping mostly from Seneca. In the upper end of the district, the grain is hauled to Germantown and sold at the elevator there. Some in the vicinity of Quince Orchard haul to Gaithersburg. Between Travillah and Quince Orchard there is some tendency to haul directly to Washington, a distance of from 15 to 18 miles. The few dairymen in the district ship by rail from Gaithersburg.

*Clarksburg.* In the lower end of this district there is a considerable amount of dairying; in the upper end tobacco is grown; throughout the district grain and grass are staples. The dairy products are all shipped to Washington by rail. The market for tobacco is Baltimore, and the shipping point is Mt. Airy, a haul of ten miles or more over what are technically known as "ordinary country roads," which in this instance means roads not ordinarily good and more than ordinarily hilly. The chief market for wheat is Germantown.

*Gaithersburg.* The chief marketable products are hay, grain, dairy products and garden truck. The dairy products are shipped to Washington by rail and handled by middlemen there. Grain is sold at local elevators. There is some local market for hay among dairymen. Garden truck is in part shipped by rail and in part handled by trucksters in a manner which will be explained later. A few who farm on a large scale ship their grain to the city and dispose of it there.

*Laytonsville.* The marketing facilities here are practically the same as in Gaithsburg, with the addition that beef is also marketed in

Washington and shipped there by rail. The shipping point is Gaithersburg.

*Damascus.* This district has the poorest market facilities of any district in the county. The farmers here have the longest haul to their shipping points and they have the poorest roads to haul over. There is not an inch of macadam in the district. The land is the highest in the county. The hills which are numerous and substantial would be more convenient for skeeing than for marketing. All tobacco is hauled to Mt. Airy and shipped by rail to Baltimore. Shipment is made in hogsheads containing 700 to 800 pounds. The wheat is hauled either to Mt. Airy or Germantown. From Damascus village the distance to Mt. Airy is 7 miles, to Germantown 10 miles, and to Gaithersburg 12 miles. It is expected, or at least hoped, that the Germantown road will soon be macadamized.

*Potomac.* In this District the farmers for the greater part haul directly to Washington, ten miles, with pike all the way. The canal is available to some, but is not used to any considerable extent.

*Rockville.* All dairy products are shipped by rail to middlemen in Washington. Grain, hay, etc., are either shipped by rail or hauled direct to the same market. There is good pike all the way, a haul of about 14 miles.

*Olney.* This district has but one market and but one way of getting there, Washington, reached by direct wagon haul. But it is blessed with good stone roads available to almost all parts, a haul of from 12 miles upward. Grain, hay and potatoes are all marketed in this way. Dairying is an extensive industry here. In the lower end of the district some dairymen drive daily to the city and sell their milk on retail routes. Further up, most of the milk is carried by a few men who make the trip daily, picking up milk along their way, charging 2½ cents a gallon for hauling, and selling to small dairies. A few sell to certain large consumers in Washington, as hospitals or hotels. One dairy in Washington is owned here, and considerable milk is handled through that medium.

*Colesville.* In the upper end of the District, the milk is hauled by a few men at a stated rate for hauling. In the lower part it is to some extent disposed of on retail routes. There are three markets for wheat: local mills, Silver Spring, and Washington; most of it goes to the first two. Other products, potatoes, hay, eggs, etc., are hauled to Washington by their producers and sold in the public market there. Good stone roads are available to almost all.

*Wheaton.* In this district there is a home market for much hay and corn, the dairymen for the most part requiring more than they can raise. Wheat and hay are hauled to Silver Spring and sold there. Most of the dairymen, especially in the lower end of the District, drive to Washington

ROAD GRADING ON THE ROCKVILLE-NORBECK ROAD

daily. Trucking is of course done almost exclusively for the Washington market. The district is well provided with available pikes.

*Bethesda.* This is the least important district, agriculturally, in the county. All of its products are hauled direct to Washington. Good roads are available.

One other feature of the market situation which deserves attention is the way in which garden products, eggs, butter, poultry, etc., are handled. A number of hucksters have well established routes through the county which they cover on set days picking up these particular products. At the end of the week they take them to Washington, usually selling from the stands in the City market. Returning they bring melons, fish, etc. in season, peddling them through the county. Almost the entire county is covered in this fashion and a good proportion of these products are so handled.

In general it will be observed that market conditions are very favorable. The market is constant and moreover is a growing market, and for the most part it is a cash market. But little time is required to reach it and in most instances it is fairly accessible. However, it is also apparent that more good roads are required and that from every point of view it will pay the county to build them. This is quite generally

realized and the Good Roads Movement is rapidly gaining supporters. In certain sections the farmers are about ready to build the roads at their own expense. This spring a group of men from the Darnestown District so expressed themselves with reference to a road which for their purposes particularly needed piking. At the present time an addition of 72 miles is proposed under the State Road System which will materially improve conditions if built as planned.

## POPULATION

The 1910 Census gives the total population of the county as 32,089. This is an increase for the decade 1900–1910 of 1,638 or 5.4%. The increase for the preceeding decade, 1890–1900, was 3,266 or 12%. (See Table No. 9, Appendix, page III).

Since the total land area of the county is 521 square miles, a population of 32,089 makes the density for the whole county 61.4 inhabitants per square mile. For the entire state the density is 130.3 per square mile. There are 23 counties in the state and Montgomery County stands fourteenth in respect to the density of the total population. For the entire state the density of the *rural* population (according to the Census definition of "rural" as all those living outside of places of 2,500 inhabitants or more) is 64.1 per square mile. Montgomery stands eleventh in this respect, its entire population being classified as rural.

In this report hereafter a different classification will be more convenient. All places of 750 or more inhabitants will be referred to as towns; places of from 100 to 750 inhabitants will be termed villages; the remaining population will be termed "rural". (The division of the population into these classes for 1900 and 1910 is shown by Table No. 10, Appendix, page III).

"MAMMY"

In 1900 the rural population formed a larger per cent. of the total than in 1910 and there has been a gain in the towns. Six districts, Nos. 5, 7, 9, 11, 12 and 13, during that decade showed an increase of 2,855, while the remaining seven districts showed a decrease of 1,217. Of the six districts showing an increase, two, Bethesda and Wheaton, are suburban districts; two, Barnesville and Gaithersburg are adjacent to the railroad

and part of the increase is suburban in character; the other two, Colesville and Damascus, are as strictly rural as any districts in the county, but their gain was very small, 42 in one instance and 39 in the other. A closer examination of the figures shows that the rural population of the county has decreased since 1900, and is steadily decreasing. For the six districts showing an increase, 66% of the increase was of suburban, village or town population; for the seven districts showing a decrease, 91% of the decrease was of rural population. The increase for the whole county was 1,638; the increase in suburban, village and town population was 2,402; the decrease in rural population was 764. Seven districts, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, show a decrease in rural population. The net loss in rural population is thus about 4%. Excluding districts 7 and 13 (in which approximately two-thirds of the area is not farmed) there are about 460 square miles of open country in the county, with a population density of about 46 to the square mile. Here the total population has slightly decreased, though the population of the towns and villages has increased. (See Table No. 11, Appendix, page IV).

Obviously there is a movement, marked though not of serious proportions, out of the rural districts. This does not, however, necessarily offer any very urgent problem, when it is remembered that the number of farms over the same period has increased from 2,085 to 2,442. It is evidently not the farmers who are making their exit, but either the class from which have been drawn the laborers on the farms or in the country stores, blacksmith shops, mills, etc., or the "floating" population, colored mostly, who in the past have been making their living, none knows how but themselves, and who economically have not been a productive force but rather a drag upon the community.

Of the population 28.8% are colored. The figures for the county are:

| | |
|---|---|
| White | 22,847 |
| Colored | 9,235 |
| Other non-white | 7 |

Seventy-five percent., probably, of the colored population are found either in little settlements and villages scattered through the county, or in the colored sections of the larger towns.

The county as a whole has a relatively stable population; the suburban population is of course rather a shifting element, but for the remainder of the county, probably 90% of the farm owners are old settlers, i.e., have been in the county 15 years or more. In many sections the proportion is even higher. There is some tendency, to move from one location to another *within* the county. This fact and the fact that a fourth of the farming population are tenants would make the proportion of old resid-

ents for any particular neighborhood somewhat less than 70%. Of the new-comers, in the farming sections, a very small proportion are of foreign birth, the greater part being from Pennsylvania, Virginia and the neighboring Maryland counties.

As far as the white population is concerned, we are here dealing with the best American stock. Throughout the county an unusually high level of culture and education is maintained. In this respect, the farms are as interesting as the towns. An astonishingly large proportion of the farmers, especially in the Laytonsville and Olney Districts, have had the benefit of a college education or have achieved its equivalent in general culture. This fact was borne in upon the investigators' minds by their first experience with a Farmers' Club in the county. They attended a meeting of this club with the preconceived notion that "rural" meant good citizenship, high character and sterling worth, but hardly broad education and general culture. They came away knowing that it meant all of that and more, and realizing that the only safe plan when attending similar meetings in the future would be to have a care that their trousers were pressed and their shoes blacked, their minds clear and their English correct, and their general deportment above reproach. In the Districts mentioned, and elsewhere to a considerable extent, traditions of education have been long maintained. In other districts, particularly in the upper end of the county, the present generation hasn't had the advantage of educated grandfathers, but here within 30 years, very substantial progress along these lines has been made. At present, there are very few illiterates among the white population of the county.

As regards industry, the conditions are quite as favorable. The great proportion of the whites are regularly industrious. One district reported an old practise of "white-capping" the idle. In general, however, there has been little necessity for coercion in this direction. To be sure, there are circles in which industry does not mean the long hours and unceasingly hard labor that usually characterize farm life. For example, in the Laytonsville District, a proportion of the farm-owners represent what we may describe as "The Old South," and among them the word "industry" must be liberally interpreted. These men are good farmers, but do not themselves do much of the hard work, and in consequence they are not making the progress economically that many of their thriftier neighbors are making.

Among the negroes, the conditions are not so favorable. The exact facts were exceedingly difficult to get at. Probably at least two-thirds of the adults are illiterate and a considerable proportion more or less regularly indolent. (In the Sandy Spring neighborhood, a bulletin of the Department of Labor, 1899, reported 70% of the negroes as able

HOME OF A PROSPEROUS COLORED FARMER

to read and write, the majority of them as industrious, and many of them as obtaining and holding property. The conditions here are exceptional, however, and our present remarks are applicable to the remainder of the county). It was frequently suggested to the investigators, as a profitable field for study, that they endeavor to ascertain just what sources of income certain colonies of negroes had, as they were popularly believed to do no work.

But if the negroes of the county are to any considerable extent illiterate and indolent, at least a part of the blame should be put upon the white population, who appear to have taken it for granted that such conditions will always maintain and to have made no especial effort toward improvement. They have neglected the colored schools, have given no encouragement to the colored churches, and have made no systematic effort to better the economic condition of the negro.

This cannot be said to be a growing problem, for in the last thirty years the colored population has remained stationary while the white population has increased nearly 50%. But it is none the less an urgent problem which should constrain us to remember that the while population is charged with the responsibility of helping the colored population until such time as it can care for itself in adequate fashion.

### Industrial Types

There are 2,442 farm operators in the county, of whom 2,042 are native-born whites, 51 are foreign-born whites and 349 are negroes. Forty-five physicians live in the county, 42 having local practise. There are 20 practising lawyers. Other professional men who make their income

within the county number about 20. A large proportion of the men living within the districts where suburban development has gone on have their work in Washington. A complete industrial classification for the whole county was not attempted.

## SOCIAL MIND

### I—Means of Transportation and Communication

The problem of rural isolation is an important one from many points of view, but particularly from the point of view of the development of the social life of a community. The typical rural community still has the units composing it relatively isolated and hence has an altogether inadequate social life, due, usually, in large part to inadequate means of inter-communication. Adequate means of communication are of the same primary importance socially that adequate means of transportation are economically.

*Railroad and Trolleys.* As has been said, the Metropolitan Branch of the B. & O. runs diagonally through the county and is available, more or less, to most of the county. For the upper end of the county, the B. & O. is also accessible at Mt. Airy, and for the eastern end of the county, at Laurel, in Prince George's County.

There are six trolley roads operating in the county, all in the southern end, providing easy communication with Washington for those adjacent to them. They are as follows:

The Georgetown Electric, running from Washington to Rockville through the Bethesda and Rockville Districts. This is one of the best equipped trolley lines in the vicinity of Washington, giving efficient service on a convenient schedule.

Capital Traction Company; running a line from Washington through the eastern part of the Bethesda District to Chevy Chase Lake.

Kensington to Chevy Chase Lake connecting there for Washington.

Forest Glen to Washington, through Woodside, and Silver Spring.

Takoma Park to Washington; short run and convenient schedule.

"Washington and Great Falls Electric Railway," from Washington to Cabin John via Glen Echo, chiefly important for the crowds that it carries out from Washington in summer to the amusement park at Glen Echo.

Another line is projected to run from Chevy Chase Lake to the Great Falls in connection with the Bradley Hills Development.

*Stage Lines.* There are two stage lines in the county operated on a regular schedule of two trips each way per day. One of these connects Poolesville and Barnesville Station on the B. & O., a distance of 6 miles. The other connects Ashton, in the Olney District, and Laurel, a distance of 11 miles.

*Roads.* A table of the county roads was given in connection with the discussion of markets. It would be hard to overestimate the social importance of good roads. A system of good roads must inevitably extend the limits of a community, by increasing the distance which it is possible conveniently to travel for social intercourse, attendance upon public gatherings, churches, schools, etc. It also tends to increase the solidity of a community and the strength of its social bonds by facilitating inter-communication. It is interesting to note that in Montgomery County social organization of every sort is closely dependant upon the availability of adequate transportation facilities, particularly upon the existence of good roads. Where there are good roads, as in the Olney District, there is developed social life; where there are no good roads, as in the Barnesville District, there is little or no social life except in the villages. This point will become clear if in connection with the discussion of social organizations and of recreation facilities reference is made to the table of roads. An incidental result of good roads is that ultimately they mean the decline of the cross-roads store on account of the increased tendency to drive to the villages and towns.

*R. F. D. and Telephones.* There are 30 Rural Free Delivery Routes starting from post offices within the county. These average 100 families each on a 10 to 27 mile route. There are also seven routes starting from points in adjoining counties. All the farmers in the county not immediately adjacent to some post office are served by these routes.

There are approximately 1,250 telephones in the county. About 30% of the entire number of farm homes, are equipped with telephones. This is rather a small proportion for a prosperous county; in three counties surveyed in Missouri, for example, 88% of the farmers had telephones. The telephone on the farm, aside from its advantages for the conducting of the farm business, greatly aids social intercourse, though it has somewhat diminished the practice of neighborly visits.

### Centres of Informal Meeting

That is to say, the places where people are in the habit of congregating informally for small talk and gossip. Before the advent of the rural delivery, the post offices served that purpose. To a considerable extent the stores are such centres now, both in the villages and in the open country. In Rockville the Court House, especially when court is in session, the drug store, the pool room, the club house and certain stores all have their habitues. Throughout the county the churches provide the meeting place for many who remain to chat a few moments after the service. Other places frequented by some are the village streets, the depots and the sheds erected at principal stops of the Georgetown trolley.

Incidentally, the trolleys and the railroad afford the opportunities for many chance meetings, especially on Saturdays, when the county goes to the city. The negroes, of course, have their own special centres of meeting—churches, stores, lodge halls and, for the young men, often certain open places in woods, where they gather for "pitch" and "craps."

### Community Leadership and Social Control

If we take the word of the people themselves, we shall have to assert that we are here dealing with a county that to all intents and purposes is without leaders. There seems to be an idea abroad through these farming communities that to have leaders is undemocratic and savors of servility. The question, "Who are your leaders?" could not be put adroitly enough to the average farmer to elicit any answer that was not in substance this: "We have no leaders; we all think for ourselves and reach our decisions independently." Indeed, one might be led to think that instead of leaders these communities were equipped with professional "leader killers." This condition, if actually existent, would be lamentable enough, and, unfortunately to by far too considerable an extent it is the case. A community, and particularly a farming community, without leaders, whether recognized as such or not, is afflicted with a species of social disability amounting almost to impotence. Definite, intelligent, vigorous leadership is always a prime necessity if substantial progress is to be made. Whether the thing to be aimed at is better roads, better schools or churches, better methods of farming, better social conditions, more efficient coöperation or what not, leadership is essential or nothing will be accomplished. Now, as a matter of observation, there never was a community quite without leadership, and neither is Montgomery County without it. The question is in part as to the efficiency and desirability of the particular leadership found. In general, it may be said that the chief weakness of the county from this point of view is the lack of efficient leadership among the farmers themselves. In a number of districts the evident leaders are politicians; among certain groups ministers are influential. The results would, however, be better if their places were taken by successful, well-equipped farmers. In some sections, to be sure, farmers of this type are influential and in quiet, unostentatious fashion are doing much to promote the general welfare.

Social control is not altogether a matter of direct leadership. Institutions and organizations and the operation of social forces of various sorts are frequently of more importance, and it is so in this case. One of these controlling forces, probably for the county at large the most potent, is politics. The county is known as a Democratic county, but the voting strength is quite evenly divided, and political lines are quite sharply

drawn. The hand of politics is upon almost everything in the county, and not always for good. For example, the schools, here as throughout the State, are distinctly in politics, and this fact is the bane of the school system, making the tenure of office of the county officials uncertain at best, and thus adding greatly to the difficulty of carrying out a permanent policy of school management.

After politics, other forces to be mentioned are religious denominationalism, which among certain classes is still a controlling factor; lodges and clubs have a power of their own; the farmers' clubs deserve special mention, though their influence is geographically limited, as there are only three in the county (except in Sandy Spring, which throughout this discussion is not considered, as the problem there is a distinctive one). Two of the three are limited organizations for discussion and social meeting; the third is a coöperative association. While it is true that economic pressure has been responsible for most of the progress in the direction of scientific farming, nevertheless these clubs have been directly concerned in giving currency to many advanced ideas and improved methods of farm management. Lastly, we must mention a factor which is rather hard to gauge, but which is doubtless exceedingly important in certain districts, notably Gaithersburg, Rockville, Laytonsville, Olney and Wheaton, and parts of Colesville; namely, the organization of the community into social classes. This will be discussed more in detail in the succeeding paragraph. Here let us remark that this social organization, where it is definite and clear cut, is probably the most potent of all socially controlling forces.

### Social and Economic Standards

By social standards, we do not refer primarily to the groups or cliques of those who in any given community actually do associate together regularly, but rather to the larger recognized groups, or *strata* of society, composed of those who would or could associate together; to those classes distinctly conscious of their likeness to each other and of their difference from other elements of the social whole. By economic standards, we refer to that classification of a community which one would make measuring it by property held, by income, by housing conditions, clothing, table service, etc. Since the same conditions do not prevail throughout the county, it will be convenient to discuss this topic by districts, making such groupings of districts as conditions warrant.

*Laytonsville.* Here we have three very distinct standards, both social and economic, and the lines are sharply drawn. One class is that group which we have referred to as lineal descendants of the "Old South"; their ancestors were of the slave-holding aristocracy and the present generation maintains their traditions. A second class is composed partly

of farm owners, partly of tenants, including a number who have come into the county in recent years; economically the future belongs to this class rather than to the other, as they are making rapid strides toward prosperity. A third class is composed largely of laborers, or of tenants on the smaller places; their prospects economically are not very bright. Socially there is little or no opportunity of passing from one class to another. Here, and generally throughout the county, there are classes among the negroes, also, usually on the basis of prosperity and industry.

*Clarksburg, Barnesville and Poolesville.* In these three districts, generally speaking, two standards are maintained; there is but little distinction between the farm owner and the renter; the lines are not closely drawn. Throughout the upper end of the county a more democratic spirit prevails. In the Poolesville District there is one instance of a group, not different from those around them, either socially or economically, but nevertheless very homogeneous. This group, now the third generation from the original settlers, are all of one stock; but they have at the present time reached a condition which probably means the ultimate breaking up of the community, as the young men are moving out, partly owing to the fact that the farms have been divided as much as is considered profitable.

COLORED LODGE HALL

*Damascus.* Here the lines are more loosely drawn than anywhere else in the county. There are two economic standards, but practically only one social standard.

*Colesville.* Part of this district belongs properly with Sandy Spring and will be discussed in that connection; for the remainder of the district, there are two economic standards, but hardly more than one social standard.

*Wheaton.* In the towns there is very largely a suburban population maintaining on the whole but one standard, socially and economically; the only distinction here would be between this class and the laboring element. In that part of the district which is farmed, there are two distinct standards.

*Gaithersburg.* Here there are three social standards, in general conforming to the three groups of farm-owners, tenants, and laborers. These lines are not hard and fast, and are easily stepped over; one great reason for this is that for 15 or 20 years most of the young people have belonged to the so-called "middle" class. There are only two economic standards, as there is practically no difference between owner and tenant in this respect.

*Potomac and Darnestown.* The conditions here are much the same as in Damascus, two standard economically and one socially.

*Olney.* Part of this district should be classed in the main with Laytonsville; the remainder belongs to the Sandy Spring neighborhood and will be described later.

*Bethesda.* The situation here is peculiar owing to the extensive but rather uneven suburban development, and is hardly of sufficient importance for our present purpose to warrant discussion.

*Rockville.* The town of Rockville has its own standards the basis of which it is a little difficult to see. For the remainder of the district there are apparently three economic and three social standards.

Outside of Rockville, Laytonsville and Sandy Spring the county appears to be, from the point of view of our present discussion, more or less in a stage of transition. Now it is common experience that social institutions prosper best in communities where the social organization is compact and definite, whether composite or not. It was observed, for example, in a survey of 53 communities in central Pennsylvania, that the churches had their greatest difficulties in just such periods of transition, and worked with greater ease and efficiency when the communities had arrived "through industrial development at a clear recognition of the composite nature of social life." Here the movement is in the opposite direction, but the point holds that social institutions prosper best where the organization is compact. In the discussion of recreation and social life it will be discovered that the most highly developed communities in

this respect are communities of this type. The great danger here, of course, is that only one stratum of society will be provided for, which is, in fact, exactly what has happened.

### Leveling Influences

An interesting question is how these class lines are maintained and what forces are operating to break them down. The chief reason for their maintenance appears to be that in the communities where they are maintained the *entire* community seldom if ever acts *as a unit.* The group within the community acts as a unit, thus heightening its own class consciousness; it expresses itself through its own institutions, its own churches, its own clubs and societies, and, in the past to a considerable extent, its own schools. There has been very little intermarriage with other groups not similarly situated. In consequence, no forces have ever been set in motion which would tend to break down these standards, and they have been carried on by sheer momentum. In the other districts, where the transition is now taking place, the conditions have been different. In the first place, there has been no such compact group to start with and, hence, not so much resistance to disintegrating forces. One prime consideration here, moreover, has been economic. Many influences, chief among them improved methods of farming and better marketing facilities, have operated to place the different groups more nearly upon an economic equality. This has meant more nearly equal opportunities for education, culture, and the cultivation of refinement of taste. This has led the communities to act more as wholes, and churches and lodges and schools have come in as leveling influences. Also, what facilities for recreation and social life existed must have the support of practically the entire community to thrive, and these assemblings in common have tended, especially among the young people, to break down class distinctions. This last deserves a more extended notice.

### Assemblies Attended in Common by the Community

At the outset we may except Laytonsville and Olney Districts from this discussion, for in those districts there are, apparently, no assemblies so attended. For the remainder of the county, the first assembly to be mentioned and the chief of them all, is the picnic, usually given by the church, but sometimes by the lodge, and frequently referred to as the "political picnic." These picnics are a great institution; everybody goes to them, including the politicians, who during a campaign year utilize them for campaign purposes. Then, too, oyster suppers and strawberry festivals flourish like the green bay tree and are always cordially supported. In many parts of the county home-talent plays are a frequent form of entertainment and are very generally attended. Rockville has

a moving picture show and the "movies" know no class lines. The County Fair is another event that draws its patronage from nearly the entire county and from all classes.

## SOCIAL WELFARE

### Public Health

The county health officer has the general oversight of the public health for all of the county, except the Olney District and the town of Takoma Park. The Olney District has its local board of health, chartered by the State Legislature; the town of Takoma Park is under the supervision of the health officer of the District of Columbia. (For principal causes of death see Tables Nos. 12 and 13 and note, Appendix page III.) The vital statistics for the county (Olney included, but Takoma Park excluded) are as follows for the year 1911, January 1 to December 31 inclusive:

| | |
|---|---|
| Birth rate, white (per 1,000 inhabitants) | 14.8 |
| Birth rate, colored (per 1,000 inhabitants) | 15.3 |
| Death rate, white (per 1,000 inhabitants) | 7.8 |
| Death rate. colored (per 1,000 inhabitants) | 14.5 |

The birth rate, it will be noticed, is rather low, but the death rate is also low. The death rate for the United States, year 1910, was 14.7 as against 9.7 for Montgomery County (both white and colored population). This low death rate bears out the observation of the investigators that the average length of life seemed unusually great. It is also significant that the death rate of the negroes is almost double that of the whites, while the birth rate is only slightly higher.

### The County Alms House

This is located on the Falls Road a mile and a half from the town of Rockville. The building contains seven rooms and two halls with a basement; there is a room for white women and another for white men; one for colored women and one for colored men; one for married couples; one for a crippled colored woman; one for tramps (in the basement); there are two dining rooms, two bath rooms and two toilets. The farm contains 140 acres, and has been poorly worked heretofore. The inmates do not help in the farm work, being either physically or mentally incompetent. At the time the investigators visited the Alms House it contained 24 inmates, 12 white (6 male and 6 female) and 12 colored (also 6 male and 6 female, including 3 children). Under the present management, the place is well kept and the inmates are given proper care and good treatment.

### Average Age of Marriage

For the white farming population, the average age at which the man marries is 25.7 years and the woman, 21.6 years; for the colored population, the ages are respectively, 28.5 and 22.2 years. These averages as compared with the averages in counties surveyed in other states are high, fully a year above the averages in Kentucky and 3 years above the averages in Missouri. Reference to the chart on the age of farmers and to the discussion on that point will suggest one reason for this—namely that the difficulty of the young farmer in acquiring land without going in debt for it postpones marriage.

### Housing Conditions

No very intensive survey was made of the housing conditions but a few general observations may be ventured as in point here. Our interest is primarily in the farm homes. If we were to compare Montgomery County with the average farming community of the Middle West, it would be safe to say that on the whole Montgomery County has from 25 to 50% better housing conditions. Here the story-and-a-half, relatively unpainted frame house of weather-beaten aspect, that graces so many country roads in such profusion, is almost unknown. Its place is taken by a large, freshly painted, two or three-story house which is both commodious and comfortable and equipped with many modern conveniences. In the upper end of the county the homes are on the average a little smaller. For the entire county, probably the homes of the farm owners would average seven or eight rooms. Ninety-five per-cent. of them are painted. A fair proportion are supplied with water by windmill or ram or engine. Sanitary conveniences are excellent. The homes of the farm-tenants, for the county as a whole, are smaller; probably not more than 60% are painted. The homes of the colored farmers, while considerably below the average for the white farmers, are well above the average for colored farmers in many other sections of the country.

On almost all the farms a distinct effort has been made to beautify the homes and the home-surroundings. One sees an unusual number of well-kept lawns, with an abundance of shade trees, shrubbery, and flowers. In general, the household furnishings have beauty in mind as well as utility. Probably a third of the homes have musical instruments of some sort.

### Institutions of Public Importance

There are four large, well-equipped sanitariums in the county. One of these is devoted to the open air treatment of all forms of tuberculosis; a second is given over to the treatment of nervous and mental diseases,

including mild forms of insanity; the other two are general in their scope.

There are several circulating or public libraries in the county; one, Takoma Park, has just been housed in a fine $40,000 building. This latter is a Carnegie Library, a branch of Washington City Library; the building stands in the district of Columbia, but is patronized by Montgomery County people from Silver Spring down to the district line. Rockville has a small museum, apparently but little used.

### Community Improvements

The suburban sections of the county are of course still very much in the process of making, but throughout the county more or less building has been going on continuously. Twenty-six new school houses have been built during the last six years, 20 of them having two or more rooms. At least two of these were built with the local assistance of their patrons. There are a number of Town Halls in the county which were built by subscription, and several of these have been put up within five years. Money is now being raised for one in the Darnestown District. The Knights of Pythias Hall in Gaithersburg, a fine, large brick building, was built quite recently. Other buildings put up within a few years which particularly deserve mention are the Baptist Church and the Sunday-school building of the Southern Methodist Episcopal Church at Rockville, the Episcopal Churches at Laytonsville and Olney, the Club House of the Chevy Chase Country Club, the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, the building of the Montgomery County National Bank at Rockville, of the National Bank and Savings Bank at Sandy Spring, and of the Fire Insurance Company at Sandy Spring.

### Local Option

In 1880 the county voted upon the question of local option, and the vote was in favor of prohibition; the fight was a bitter one, but every district in the county gave Prohibition at least a small majority. This went into effect the following year and has remained in force ever since. Of recent years, the law has been fairly well enforced. A considerable amount of liquor is shipped or otherwise brought into the County from Washington; the "locker" system is in force at one or two club houses; but there is little or no open selling.

### Newspapers

Three newspapers are published in the county, two in Rockville, and one in Kensington. Of these, one is a Republican paper and the other two are Democratic. Each issues one edition a week.

### Crime and Law-Suits

The county is about normal in respect to the amount of crime committed. Each term of court averages about one murder case, and the usual run of petty and grand larceny cases. Automobile-speeding has furnished a considerable number of cases, especially in view of the automobile war waged between Maryland and the District of Columbia. To an outsider, there would seem to be more than an ordinary amount of litigation over property, but what this might argue for the temper of the people we would not venture to say.

## ORGANIZATIONS

The county is very unevenly organized, both as regards Secret Fraternal Organizations and Open Organizations or Clubs. In this discussion, as elsewhere in this section, Sandy Spring is not considered nor included in the totals for the Olney District, with the exception of the Olney Grange, which is largely supported by Sandy Spring.

### Secret Fraternal Organizations

The social importance of these societies is not usually very great; in most of them the insurance feature is the most important aspect. The attendance at their meetings is a small proportion of their membership; for all lodges in the county not more than 15% of the membership are in attendance at any given session. The total number of local organizations is 29, representing 9 varieties, located in 12 districts, with an aggregate membership of 1,744. Only one district, Barnesville, is without one or more local branches; a number of the residents of this District belong to lodges in adjoining districts. Tables Nos. 14 and 15 (Appendix, pages IV and V), give the number of organizations and aggregate membership, one by the kind of organization, and the other by districts.

### Open Fraternal Organizations or Clubs

In respect to these organizations, the county is much more unevenly organized than is the case as regards Secret Societies. These, moreover, are of much greater social importance. Excluding certain organizations which are of more than local importance (discussed in the succeeding paragraph); also three Country Clubs with a membership of 1,938, in the Bethesda District, which draw their patronage so largely from without the county that we need not be concerned with them here, there are 40 organizations (Tables Nos. 16 and 17, and following note, Appendix, pages IV and V), having a total membership of 969 (including 3 Athletic Associations which have no definite memberhip); the total average attendance is 580 (5 have no stated meetings). The attendance of those having stated meetings is 71% of the membership.

COLORED SCHOOL, LODGE HALL AND CHURCH

## Societies of More Than Local Interest

There are a number of organizations in the county which deserve mention but which can hardly be said to have immediate social importance for any one locality. The following may be cited: The *W. C. T. U.* has nine local branches in the county located respectively at Spencerville, Laytonsville, Rockville, Colesville, Travillah, Kensington, Sandy Spring, Brighton and Oakdale; the work is conducted along the lines usually followed by this organization; the *Anti-Saloon League;* the *Montgomery County Suffrage Association;* the *United Daughters of the Confederacy;* The Janet Montgomery *D. A. R. Chapter;* the Montgomery County *Medical Society*, of which all but three of the physicians in the county are members; the Montgomery County *Federation of Woman's Clubs*, which includes twelve local organizations; and the Montgomery County *Social Service League.* This last deserves a more extended notice, though its work is important for public health and well-being rather than for social life. This League, which was formed in 1908, has for its objects: "to assist in the care of the poor, of the sick, especially tuberculosis cases, and of destitute and deficient children in the county; to direct public attention to the causes and the prevention of disease and suffering, and to arouse general interest in securing proper provisions for the needy in their homes and in institutions." It was the first association of its kind to be formed in the state, and from the start has had generous support. At the present time it is supporting a resident tuberculosis nurse, who gives her entire time to visiting the homes of the poor and instructing them in the care of the sick.

### Negro Societies

The investigators, with the time at their disposal, could not undertake the task of obtaining detailed and accurate information concerning the Negro Lodges and Clubs; there are too many of them and they are too hard to discover. The Colored Church, School, and Lodge Hall compose a group of buildings frequently come upon through the county; benevolent societies thrive, and they care for you when sick, bury you, and look after your family. There are also many lodges and societies of other sorts. These all play a prominent part in the social life of the negroes, more prominent probably than the similar organizations do for the whites.

### As to the Distribution of Organizations

If the assumption is a valid one that the Secret Fraternal Organizations have relatively little *social* importance and that the open organizations or clubs afford the better index of the social life, then certain significant conclusions seem safely established. (a) The social organization of the county is highly uneven as regards geographical distribution. Four districts are altogether without societies, and a fifth has only two athletic associations. 57% of the existent societies are in the suburban sections. (It must be remembered that Sandy Spring is being excluded from this present discussion). All of the Scientific Clubs and Citizen's Improvement Associations are in these suburban sections. The best organized localities are those with the best transportation facilities and the best roads. (b) Only a small proportion of the population in any instance is provided for in these organizations. There are no societies for the laboring and tenant classes; the existent societies are those of the farm owners and town folk. (c) It will be pointed out in the succeeding section that these conditions are paralleled with respect to existing recreation facilities and developed social life, those districts which are deficient with respect to organization being deficient in both those respects also.

## RECREATION AND SOCIAL LIFE

"The things we do, when we do what we please, are vitally related not only to health, but also to morality and the whole development of the finer self. The forms of our pleasure-seeking disclose what we really are. Those nations which devoted their leisure to re-creating health and building up beautiful bodies have tended to survive, while those which turned, in the marginal hours, to dissipation have written for us the history of national downfall. A daily life in which there is no time for recreation may be fraught with as much evil as a leisure given over to a futile frittering away of energy." (Dr. Luther H. Gulick). The day has passed when there is need of advancing to thoughtful students

of social problems an argument as to the necessity for recreation in the culture of well-rounded manhood and womanhood. Yet this problem of recreation remains one of the vital rural problems. The city also has its recreation problem, but the initial terms of the problem are not so serious as in the country, for congestion lends itself to the solution more readily than isolation.

It is not our present purpose to attempt anything more than a description of existing conditions, which will include a discussion of the types of recreation offered and the agencies by which offered. All of the county except the Sandy Spring neighborhood will be considered.

## Types of Recreation

*Athletics.* Baseball is played quite generally throughout the county. The larger schools have organized teams, playing with each other and to some extent with teams from Washington City. Rockville, Gaithersburg, Brookville and Sandy Spring High Schools are the most important in this respect. There were last season eight organized town teams, playing one game each per week; admission was charged and crowds of 100 or more were usually in attendance. Four of these teams were organized into a league; this, however, will not be the case this year. Probably, there is more playing in Clarksburg, Boyds, Germantown, Gaithersburg, Washington Grove, Rockville and Kensington than elsewhere in the county. Laytonsville town usually has one game a month. In Poolesville, Colesville, Darnestown, Potomac, Barnesville, Damascus and Bethesda Districts, there is little or no organized playing, but there are scrub teams which play in the fields on Saturdays or Sundays, and at the picnics.

Basketball is played in several of the schools; there are also two town teams, in Rockville and Gaithersburg. Football is played in the Rockville and Gaithersburg schools to some extent, and Kensington has a town team; this game, however, is not very popular. Soccer is played to an even less extent. The larger schools do more or less track work, occasionally entering teams in State meets. A meet is held at Washington Grove every summer, in which not only the county athletes but athletes from various parts of the State and from neighboring States participate.

Tennis is played in various sections, particularly in the Rockville, Darnestown, Olney, Gaithersburg, Wheaton and Bethesda districts. Tournaments are often held, both for particular sections and for the county. Croquet (if this can be called a form of athletics) is played in the Potomac District, and here and there throughout the county. Roque and quoits are played at Washington Grove.

*Theatricals.* Home-talent plays are very popular in at least eight districts in the county. These are given by churches, schools, lodges or

athletic associations. They are generally well supported, in the main reporting "capacity houses." Rockville, Gaithersburg, Laytonsville and Clarksburg seem the fondest of this form of diversion. Minstrel shows are also occasionally given. The type of play usually employed is the light comedy, clean and quite above reproach, but of absolutely no literary or dramatic merit. The investigators attended several of these performances and found them highly enjoyable, their chief regret being that with such a wealth of dramatic material to draw from, plays of so inconsequential a sort were invariably selected.

Once or twice a year some traveling stock company will appear in one of the public halls and present some inexpressibly poor "show" (one could hardly call it drama). Rockville has a moving picture show, open one or two nights a week. This presents a good quality of films, all approved by the National Board of Censorship, and is reasonably well patronized.

*Dancing and Card Playing.* Laytonsville has a few private subscription dances each year, but no public dances. Clarksburg district has a dance a month, at Boyds, attended by about fifteen to twenty couples; there are usually dances at the picnics attended by a hundred couples. Poolesville town has a dance a week during the winter, at the hall, attended by twenty-five to fifty couples; there is no charge except for expenses. Rockville has private dances at the hall, and dances at the club house for members; the latter are invitation dances. Colesville district has an occasional dance given by the lodge. Few dances are held in the Darnestown district, but 10% of the young people attend those given at Boyds and Gaithersburg. In the Olney district a number of dances are given in the course of the year at private homes and in the Grange halls at Olney and Brighton. In Gaithersburg both public and private dances are given at the Masonic Hall. Potomac has three or four a year at the Great Falls Hotel, and several at the Knights of Pythias Hall; there is also dancing at the Catholic picnic. In Barnesville there are public dances at the picnics; private dances are also given. In Wheaton most of the towns along the railroad have frequent dances during the winter; these are usually invitation affairs. There is less dancing in Damascus district than elsewhere in the county.

There are card clubs in the Laytonsville, Poolesville, Rockville and Wheaton districts. Elsewhere there is considerable playing privately, less in the Damascus district than anywhere else in the county.

*Lectures and Public Entertainments.* Lectures are not very much in vogue in the county. Washington Grove has a number in connection with its summer Chautauqua. A number of towns in the Wheaton district have frequent lectures, usually to restricted audiences in clubs. Elsewhere they are very infrequent now, though in general they were

much more frequent and much more popular fifteen or twenty years ago. Public entertainments, other than theatrical performances, are not much more common. Takoma Park and Kensington usually have a number of musical entertainments or illustrated talks during the winter. Washington Grove has them on its Chautauqua program. Churches or schools in other places give occasional public entertainments, which will be taken up more in detail in the church and school sections.

*Suppers, Festivals, etc.* For most of the churches in the county the festive strawberry and oyster are the first aids to the budget; the lodges also require their assistance. It would be difficult to estimate the total number of oyster suppers, strawberry festivals and lawn parties given in the county in the course of the year. Practically all of the organizations which require money give them, and in spite of their number, throughout the county, 75 to 100 people or more can usually be gotten out to such an event.

*Fairs.* Very frequently the fair is combined with the oyster supper or strawberry festival or church picnic. Probably there are thirty or forty such fairs in the county during a year. The annual agricultural fair at Rockville has already been mentioned.

*Picnics.* As was said in another connection, a great number of picnics are given during the year by churches and lodges; the total number for the county is probably over 60. The largest is usually the Catholic picnic in the Barnesville district, which is often attended by as many as 5,000 people. The average attendance for all picnics is probably about 150. Many features are combined with the picnics, such as dancing, baseball, sales of candy, refreshments and other things, and (sometimes) raffles and similar money-making devices. The only districts where these picnics are apparently not a prominent and popular feature of the social life are the Olney and Bethesda districts.

*Amusement Parks, Chautauquas and Resorts.* Washington Grove in the Gaithersburg district is the only strictly summer resort in the county. This resort occupies 200 acres of ground, and is very pleasantly situated. Among its attractions may be enumerated its Chautauqua program of 12 lectures and concerts, its athletic association, allied with the South Atlantic division of the A. A. U. and furnished with a finely equipped athletic field, its annual athletic carnival, its 10-day camp meeting, conducted by its committee on religious services, and its kindergarten.

There is a large amusement park at Glen Echo in the Bethesda District, occupying a huge stone ampitheater which was built for Chautauqua purposes but has not been so used for many years. Cabin John is somewhat of a resort, and Chevy Chase Lake with its frequent band-concerts in the summer is very popular. These three draw much of their patronage from Washington.

*Hunting and Fishing.* There is a Fox Hunters' Association in the county which holds a field trial every fall in the upper end of the county. This is always very largely attended. There is also a Hunt Club in Chevy Chase which maintains a pack of hounds. A considerable amount of fox hunting is done altogether, chiefly around Rockville, between Colesville and Brighton, and in the Poolesville District. There is also some coon hunting.

There is excellent fishing in the Potomac River, particularly in the vicinity of the Great Falls, and this is a favorite pastime with many, especially in the Potomac District.

*Miscellaneous.* Rockville has the only public pool room in the county; there are no bowling alleys. Pool and billiards are played privately to a certain extent. Flinch and crockinole are said to be popular in the Potomac and Darnestown Districts.

*Agencies Furnishing Recreation Facilities.* In general, it will be noticed that there is no agency which feels impelled to furnish recreation facilities out of any sense of its obligation to the community. It is not a desire for service but a need for money that pushes the church and the lodge into this field. The fact that they do perform a public service in providing recreation is quite incidental to the fact that they find this a convenient way to raise funds. Such facilities as do not owe their existence to this circumstance are the results of the efforts of individuals or of groups organized for that purpose, such as card-clubs, athletic associations, etc.

## General Characteristics

In respect to recreation facilities as in respect to social organization, conditions through the county seem to be somewhat uneven. Certain districts or parts of districts seem to have inadequate local facilities, notably Potomac, Darnestown, Damascus, and parts of Colesville and Wheaton. Throughout the county, there seems to be little provision made for the laboring classes and others less favorably situated; this of course results from the fact which we have mentioned that there are no agencies concerned to furnish recreation for its own sake, so that those who because of economic circumstances, lack of personal initiative or some other cause can not provide their own recreation facilities, are left without. These, too, are the classes upon which the church and the lodge have the slightest hold.

In general, the recreation furnished the various communities is clean and wholesome. There is a little gambling among certain sets some of the picnics and a few of the dances are accompanied by drinking But on the whole, there is little that is objectionable and much that is commendable. At one time, Cabin John was popularly described as

SANDY SPRING HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

"A Sunday Booze Resort for Washington Toughs"; this was broken up, however, and there is nothing approaching that to be found in the county now.

### Social Life

Not much needs to be added under this head. Broadly speaking, the communities which are definitely organized are apt to be very social communities; those which are not are correspondingly less so. In the suburban sections, circumstances are different from elsewhere in the county. The suburb is "neither flesh, fish nor fowl"; it differs from the city and the country alike. In communities here which have been settled up for some time and by a fairly homogeneous group, there is considerable local social life; Kensington is a case in point here. In other sections where the population is more shifting, more recent or more diverse, there is little social life. Along the District of Columbia line, in Takoma Park and parts of Bethesda, there is considerable social dependence upon Washington; here, though, there is coming to be more local social life. The many Citizens' Improvement Associations are encouraging this. Throughout the county, the same classes which we have said were practically without social organization and recreation facilities, are also practically without social life of any sort.

HICKSITE FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE; CENTRE OF THE COMMUNITY LIFE

## SANDY SPRING NEIGHBORHOOD

Sandy Spring is not a town or village or civil division of any sort, but a natural division, a neighborhood, whose people are united by the bonds of religion and bloodkinship, and contrasted more or less sharply with the people of the adjoining territory by differences of thought, feeling and custom. The first settlement was made by the Society of Friends and the community has always been under their predominant influence. The limits of the section at present occupied by this community are clearly defined. Most of the territory lies within the Olney District, but a part of the Colesville District, as far east as Spencerville is included. The real centre of the community is in the vicinity of the Sandy Spring Post Office where are located the meeting houses, the school, the Lyceum Hall, the old library and the banks, institutions upon which the life of the community has been built. There is no town or railroad within 10 miles of this point.

It is not easy to say just when the first settlement was made, but the earliest land records date from the beginning of the eighteenth century, having to do with grants of land some of which are still in part held by the families to which they were originally patented. There are records of a considerable number of land transfers prior to 1750. The Friends' Meeting, always the mainspring of the community life, has had a recorded existence since 1753, a mention of it being contained in the minutes of the Monthly Meeting at the Cliffs and Herring Creek under that date. Many incidents in the subsequent history of this community are highly important for an understanding of its present and would be exceedingly interesting; but we can only pass them hastily in review. Before the opening of the Revolutionary War, the meeting took up "the testimony against slavery"; 1775 may be set as the approximate date after which there was no settled policy of slave holding in Sandy Spring. Economically, as well as in other ways, the freeing of the slaves was a step attended by important results, and the subsequent experiment of free-labor owning the soil proved this to be a sounder economic policy than the slaveholding system which it displaced.

Shortly after 1830, local option was voted for the territory adjacent to the meeting house, nearly 50 years before it was voted for the county as a whole. And it is safe to say that it was the influence of this community, working through those many years, which ultimately brought about the victory of the temperance cause in the county. Many institutions, closely associated with the development of the community life, and still enjoying a flourishing existence, had their beginnings about the middle of the nineteenth century. In 1842 a Library Company was organized and a library started at Sandy Spring. In 1844 the first Farmers' Club for men, and in 1857 the first club for women were

organized. These were probably the earliest societies of their kind to be organized in the United States. The next twenty years witnessed the organization of four other societies. In 1858 the Lyceum Stock Company was formed and the Lyceum Hall was built. Here began one of the most interesting of local institutions. It was found difficult to muster a quorum for the annual business meeting of the Stock Company. The brilliant idea was conceived of appointing an Annalist, a neighborhood historian, who should keep the record of all happenings and read that record at each annual meeting. The first historian was appointed in 1863. It was the wisdom of experience that knew that people always like to hear themselves talked about. The annual meeting never thereafter lacked a quorum. After a number of years the annals were published in book form; three volumes have been issued to date, giving the history of Sandy Spring from its earliest records. And now, after 50 years, though the Lyceum Hall is little used, the Lyceum Stock Company is a flourishing institution, and interest in the annals is as keen as ever.

The Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County began operations in 1848. The Savings Institution was established in 1868. The first turnpike in this section was built in 1860. A railroad has been "about to be built at once" for more than fifty years. In 1872, the first annual convention of Farmers' Clubs of Montgomery County was held. The Olney Grange was organized at about this time. The Maryland Woman's Suffrage Association was originated here in 1889. Something of the significance of these various institutions, all of which are still in existence, will be discussed at a later point. The interesting thing to be noted here is that this community should so early have developed many of those social institutions which most rural districts, by a long and painful process of education are just now being brought to see the vital importance of and that it should have maintained them and enlarged them as it has.

There is much that is interesting also in the economic development of the community. Beginning with soil naturally rather poor, it subjected it to the same exhaustive tobacco cultivation that prevailed through the remainder of the county. Here, as elsewhere, the price of land dropped to a very low figure, reaching its lowest point about 1835. On account of this deterioration of the soil some slight tendency to emigration westward appeared. The first fertilizer experiments were made about this time with lime. In 1838 there were 19 lime kilns within a short radius, the stone being brought 5 to 10 miles. Subsequent experiments demonstrated the value of bone-dust. In 1844, Peruvian Guano was introduced. The new methods of agriculture which followed these experiments ushered in a period of rapidly in-

creasing prosperity. To-day the soil of this section is more than ordinarily fertile, and the farmers are more than ordinarily prosperous, results brought about by 60 years of superior farming. No other section of this county and few farming sections anywhere show to a more marked degree the evidences of a substantial prosperity, fine homes, excellent farm buildings, well-kept farms, strong banks, and a strong school and church meeting the needs of rural life.

In 1900, the white population of the Sandy Spring neighborhood was estimated at about 700, and the colored population at about 1,000. It is unlikely that there has been much change since that time. The white population has been exceedingly stable. Not all the people living within the limits of the neighborhood belong, strictly speaking, to the community. But of those who are members of the Sandy Spring social group, at least 90% are of the families of "old residents." These families are practically all inter-related.

We have said that the community has always been predominantly under the influence of the Society of Friends, and this still holds true. Within recent years, some of other faiths have been received as members of the group, but they are also for the most part old residents. During the summer there is always an influx of people from near-by cities, whose annual coming has wrought social changes of some importance. But in general we may say that we are here concerned with a group very highly homogeneous. The distinctive Friend's dress has been abandoned, and among the younger generation the distinctive speech is to some extent being dropped.

This is a population whose main characteristics are remarkably permanent and who have attained a rare sort of social solidarity which permits them to retain the institutions of the past while still making room for the best that the present has to offer. They cling tenaciously to many of their old traditions; societies and customs are very often much longer lived than are the individuals who father them; yet no community has been readier to adopt improved methods of agriculture or more active in the support of reform and progress along all lines. We have, moreover, a highly cultured group, strong in its advocacy of good schools and thorough education. Illiteracy is altogether absent here, while indolence and shiftlessness are practically so. It would doubtless be easy to show that this uniformly high cultural level is fundamentally responsible for the high degree of prosperity which the community has been able to maintain.

The usual rural-community problem of holding the young people has been a more or less vital issue here. During the last 50 years 75 or 80 young men have gone out into business in various parts of the world. The farms have been divided as much as is economically desirable, and

there has seemed to be nothing to hold these young people. But many of the farms are now being operated by an older generation, and in many instances there are no young men in their families who can be looked to to carry them on. The Annalist cities that in 1884 there were 77 spinsters in the community. A similar comment might be made of the present. Within the next 50 years a period of reorganization, with possible disintegration, must be faced. Institutions of long standing will be subjected to a severe test in such a period of transition as seems inevitable.

The vitality of this community is very high. It is not practicable to separate out the vital statistics for this neighborhood from the statistics for the entire county, but it is abundantly evident that if this could be done a very low death rate would be shown. There are more than 20 people in this group who are 80 years of age or older. A year or so ago, the average age of the 13 directors of the Savings Institution was over 70 years. Throughout the community the average length of life is great.

In many ways this neighborhood keeps in close touch with the outer world, and this in spite of the fact that it is ten miles from a railroad. Those of its members who have left to take up residence in the cities usually remain in some sort of close touch with the community to its decided advantage. The annual summer visitor serves somewhat the same purpose. A large proportion of the young people go away to schools and colleges, many of them returning to Sandy Spring to live. Then, too, there has been a more than ordinary amount of travelling by members of the community. The Annals record many trips to the large cities of the country, visits in the North or far West, and tours through Europe; for example, 140 people from this neighborhood attended the Chicago World's Fair in 1892. All this has tended to give to their life many semi-urban characteristics.

The negroes of this section are for many reasons interesting enough to deserve extended mention. This Survey however made little attempt to study them except for their churches and schools. These are discussed for the entire county in another place and will not be considered here. Reference is again made to the special study of the negroes of Sandy Spring by Prof. William Taylor Thom, published as a part of the Bulletin of the Department of Labor, No. 32, under date of January, 1901. This is a very careful and exhaustive study and precludes any necessity of discussing further the topics of which it treats.

In many respects the criticisms which are usually directed against agricultural communities are here disarmed. For example it is customary to say that the farmer lacks organization, that his social life is at low ebb and that he has altogether inadequate recreation facilities. Such comments would be pointless as regards Sandy Spring, for it is at

just these points that the community is most highly developed. Fraternal organizations do not prosper, but it is because there seems to be no need for them. The place which they would occupy in the social life of the group is otherwise well-filled.

Here as elsewhere, societies have come and gone. The Annals contain records of various organizations no longer in existence. But more often they have come than gone. As long as an organization performs any real function it is maintained. There are at least six societies forty or more years old. Nineteen societies now enjoying vigorous health may be enumerated. Ten of these are in some sense agricultural societies. A list follows, giving the name, number of meetings per month (expressed 1/4 or 2/4, meaning one meeting a month or two meetings a month), the membership and, in some cases, the average attendance at the meetings (expressed 75-50, meaning membership 75, attendance 50), and the date of organization in the case of societies more than 40 years old. The Agricultural societies are marked by an *.

### For Men Only

**Montgomery Farmers' Club:* 1/4. 16 & 3 honorary. 1872.
**The Senior Club:* 1/4. 16. 1844.
**The Enterprise Club:* 1/4. 16. 1865.
*The Physicians' Social Club:* 1/4. 9.
**The Sandy Spring Fruit Growers' Association:* 26.
**The Milk Producers' Association of Md., Va. and D. C.:* 450. (This is an interstate organization with considerable local strength.)
**The Pigeon Club.* 1/4, 17. (For boys.)

### For Ladies Only

*The Benevolent Aid Society.*
*The W. C. T. U.* (four branches in this vicinity.)
*The Association for Mutual Improvement:* 1857. 45–70.
*The Wednesday Club:* 2/4. 36-25. October to June.

### For Both Sexes

**The Olney Grange No. 7.* 1/4. 89–50.
*The Lyceum Stock Company.*
*The Montgomery Co. Woman's Suffrage Assoc.:* 100.
**The Horticultural Society:* 1/4. 75–50. 1863. May to October.
**The Home Interest Society:* 1/4. 25–25. 1870.
**The Neighbors' Society:* 1/4. 50–50.
*The Whist Club:* 1/4. 50.
*The Book Club:* Two branches; 30 families in each.

AN ATTRACTIVE FARM HOME

Several of these organizations have already been discussed in previous sections, as, for instance, the Fruit Growers' and the Milk Producers' Associations. Something of the significance of the other agricultural clubs will be taken up later. For the present it will be sufficient to indicate the sort of work which is undertaken by these societies. Both the men's societies and those which are for both men and women combine social features with the discussion of all manner of topics important to their members as farmers. They give opportunity for informal meeting, as well as for the exchange of ideas. The program of a meeting of one of these clubs may be cited as typical. This is taken from a meeting of the Home Interest Society on the night of the 26th of February last. Although it was raining very hard sixteen members and some eight or ten guests were assembled by six o'clock, some of them having driven upwards of five miles. The order of the evening was as follows: 1. Supper—the rule of the club stipulates that this shall always be a one-course meal, a rule which is observed in letter but not in spirit. (We might at this point interject the observation that a monumental banquet is a feature of almost every gathering of this neighborhood.) 2. Music and informal conversation. 3. The reading of the minutes of the last meet-

ing held at this house and also of the last regular meeting. 4. Vote on proposed members. 5. Reports of the various committees.

(*a*) The committee of delegates to a recent anti-saloon league convention,

(*b*) The peace committee. A committee appointed to inform the senator of this State of the favorable attitude of this club toward the peace treaties, then pending in Congress.

(*c*) The committee appointed to prepare a memorial to the deceased daughter of two of the members.

(*d*) The forethought committee, whose advice to the club was to trim the grape vines, to have oxate of lead ready to spray them, etc., regarding blackberries and rhubarb and vegetables.

6. One of the members told of a recent visit to Bermuda, and described the way its farmers raised three crops of potatoes a year, and perform other like agricultural miracles.

7. Questions and discussion.

(*a*) "I should like to read a letter from a student of the Maryland Agricultural College, who would like a job for the summer. Will anyone need the help of such a young man?"

(*b*) "We are going to build a tenant house. Should we build a cellar under it? The tenants will probably not keep it sanitary. Will such a cellar do more harm than good?"

This was discussed pro and con, the pros having it.

(*c*) "Has anybody been able to keep cabbage this winter?" Some have by putting leaves on it.

(*d*) "What kind of asparagus root would you plant? How old should it be? How should one plant it?"

(Answer too technical for the investigators to grasp.)

(*e*) "If cider freezes will it make vinegar?" Better get some "new mother" and put in it.

(*f*) "Has any one any hens setting?" No, not even laying.

(*g*) "How should I make rebellious cream butter?" Use buttermilk as a starter.

(*h*) "I have a colored man who has been forty-five years on my place. Several years now he has not been able to do a half a man's work. I have continued to pay him full wages, higher than most farm hands receive in this district. He has never saved any of his money nor made any attempt to do so. He is now 65 years old. Living with him are his wife, daughter and mother-in-law, who all depend upon him for support. Shall I continue to pay this man his full wages, shall I turn him out or what shall I do with him?"

Here was indeed a fine ethical question, which was discussed at some length without arriving at any definite conclusion, but it was the sense

of the club that the questioner had fulfilled his duty and that the problem had now become one of charity. Following this an adjournment was taken at ten o'clock.

From this it will be seen that a great variety of topics relating to every aspect of farm life and work are discussed in these clubs. In the men's clubs more technical questions of fertilization, of methods of planting, of stock breeding and many similar branches of farming are discussed.

The Pigeon Club is doing for the boys what these other clubs do for their elders. Its scope is wider than its name. In it the boy receives preliminary initiation into the mysteries of the farm. This club holds an annual poultry show at the Lyceum Hall.

The social significance of these clubs is very great. The week of the full moon is always a steady round of festivities, as most of these societies date by the moon. Even if the community had no other opportunity for recreation than that furnished by its clubs, it would be better provided for than is the average rural community. However, the activities of the clubs do not begin to exhaust the list of amusements of this neighborhood. Each season has its lectures and its musicals, at least two or three of each and a half dozen or more of home talent plays and school entertainments. These are held in the school assembly room or in the Lyceum Hall, and are usually very well attended. The same sort of a change has been going on here as elsewhere in the county, during the last thirty years or more. Lecturers on sober topics do not now speak to the large, enthusiastic audiences that once faced them. However, these entertainments, of whatever sort, are all of more than ordinary high class. There are usually four or five dances a season in the Assembly Hall, sponsored by the High School. These are invitation dances with an admission fee. The average attendance is fifty, plus plenty of chaperones. A number of other dances are usually held in the Grange Hall at Olney or in private homes. On the road between Ashton and Ednor there is a club house which has been in process of completion for a number of years. It is still rather airy for winter use, but occasional dances are held there during the summer, perhaps four a season. In addition to these forms of amusement there are all the various outdoor activities of a well-organized community. There are three tennis courts in Sandy Spring, and many play. There is an annual tournament which attracts considerable interest. The High School has a baseball team and during the summer there is a neighborhood team. The games are all fairly well attended. There is no admission charged. Of course, there is the annual game of the "Hasbeens" and the "Never-were-anything-muches," without which the life of no community would be complete. Basketball and soccer are played at the High School.

There are many private picnics and outings during the course of the

year. This is an exceedingly social neighborhood, due in part to the fact that its people are so closely inter-related, and there is in consequence a great deal of social visiting. If it is true that the problem of the maintenance of a high standard of social morality is very vitally connected with the problem of providing adequate recreation facilities, then one would expect to find here, what is actually found, that the moral plane is quite above the average. The term moral is used in a broad sense. It is evident that not only are all gross violations of the accepted conventions quite absent; but also the lesser vices of social intercourse, those things which are the making of neighborhood scandals, the gossipings and petty dishonesties are conspicuously absent. The discipline of the Friends' meeting admonishes its members to observe simplicity, to encourage kindness and gentle dignity and to guard against corrupt conversation. The spirit of this discipline prevailing in the community means the cultivation of social virtues of high order.

The entire organization of the community, in fact, serves this same end. This is not the place to discuss the characteristics of the Friends' religion, other than to say that it is a religion that concerns itself vitally with the affairs of common life, with the dress and conversation and the daily deportment of its people. The meeting occupies a much larger place in the total life of the neighborhood than a church usually fills in this age.

We have reserved the discussion of the real social impact of such institutions as the Club and the Meeting for a later paragraph. The one aspect of the religious life which concerns us here is the philanthropic work of the Meeting. A new plan has just been adopted for carrying out this philanthropic work, which a member of the Meeting, in a letter to the investigators, describes as follows:

"That the whole meeting be constituted a philanthropic committee, with a call during our business proceedings in the second, fifth, eighth, and eleventh months:

"That a superintendent be appointed for each branch of our philanthropic work, to make a detailed report to the Meeting at least once a year, in the eighth month, and at other periods as they deem necessary:

"That the following branches of social service be selected:

"Peace and arbitration.

"Purity and Demoralizing Publications.

"Work among Colored People, also for Women and Children.

"Tobacco and Narcotics.

"Temperance, Prisons, Asylums and Hospitals.

"Lotteries, Gambling and Kindred Vices.

"Equal Rights for Women."

The variety and scope of these interests will be at once remarked.

Closely associated with this philanthropic work, though done, for the most, quite informally, is the care which the community takes of its poor and unfortunate. No one living within the bounds of the neighborhood is knowingly suffered to be in want. This does not apply only to the members of the Meeting but to all, white and colored alike. This is a well established practice, which permits the one in need to accept help as readily as it is offered without loss of self-respect. As regards the negroes, this attitude of helpfulness has always expressed itself in very practical ways. Since the members of the Meeting first manumitted their slaves and declared themselves committed to freedom from bondage and equal opportunity for all, they and their descendents have encouraged the colored churches, supported the schools and assisted the negroes to reach and maintain a condition of economic independence.

The main school of the neighborhood is admirably adapted for the needs of country life. We may anticipate the discussion of educational conditions in the county sufficiently to sketch the main characteristics of the school at Sandy Spring. It is the outgrowth of a long established Friend's school, taken over by the county some years ago. The old building was enlarged and remodeled. It is now a modern rural school

SANDY SPRING HIGH SCHOOL

in every respect, with eleven grades, offering four year courses in Elementary Agriculture, Domestic Science, and Music. It has an efficient teaching force, and material equipment reasonably ample for all its needs. Provision is made for the social and recreational life of the pupils. The school is under the influence of the Friends' whose educational ideals are notably high. There are other elementary schools within the borders of the neighborhood, but the educational life of the community centers about this High School.

The social organization of this neighborhood is sharp and distinct. There are three economic and three social classes. Class lines are definitely drawn. Among the members of the Sandy Spring social group, there is a distinct class consciousness. There is no wealth qualification for admittance to this circle, but the qualifications of education, morality, and congeniality. Another class is composed partly of farm owners and partly of tenants. A third class is the group of laborers and small renters. This last named class have little or no social life. They are within the neighborhood, but are not of it. The second class mentioned is somewhat more compact than these. But practically, we may say, the Sandy Spring community means that social group which we have been discussing. Class consciousness is here a form of community consciousness.

The question of social control within this group, is a peculiarly interesting one. There are forces at work which have long since produced a distinctive type and which now induce adherence to it. There are forces working for the continuity of social institutions and for a high form of what we may call social cohesion. There is, for example the force of their common religion, distinctive and different from the faith of the people round about them. This serves both to separate them from others and to bind them closely together. Had the line of cleavage here been less distinct it is doubtful if the community could have retained its individuality through so long a period of time. Then too this is, as we have said, a religion which emphasizes practical ideals dealing directly with neighborhood activities and associations, and having intimate relation with all that is important in their daily life. The Meeting provides for them a *program of service* as well as a *stimulus to worship*, and by working together, so constantly and in such a diversity of ways the social group becomes solidified. This result is made the easier of achievement since the membership of the Meeting has always included practically all of those who are prominent in the community socially.

The Annals, which we have mentioned, affect the community in helping it to maintain a sense of its own continuity. The present is intimate with the past to a degree not at all true of the typical rural

community. There is a constant awakening of the memory of former days; and a consequent cherishing of community ideals and standards; promoting, in turn, the persistence of all neighborhood interests. As long as a community is unable to forget its own history, especially when that history is a distinctively worthy and inspiring one, it is impossible for it to sink far below the level of its past.

The various forms of neighborhood activity, past and present, which have found outward expression in such institutions as the school, the Lyceum Hall, the banks, the insurance company, and the library, all serve to increase the homogeneity of the social group. These are the monuments of coöperation and community endeavor. Of course the stability of the population and the great degree of inter-marriage help to weld the community together, so that within the neighborhood itself there are practically no divisive forces.

But the most potent form of social control expresses itself in what we may call the *community conscience*. The clubs and the Grange share with the Monthly Meeting the function of providing this conscience. In the program which we cited of the Meeting of the Home Interest Society, it will be recalled that among the questions brought up for discussion, was one which was properly an ethical problem. This is very frequent. Many personal problems whose significance is social are solved by the club or the Meeting. In many ways, not always easy to trace, standards of conduct are created, which determine for the individual what his course should be. It is the Group Will imposing itself upon the individual, or rather it is the Will of the individual finding expression through the Will of the Group. The force of this cumulative social pressure must be great; greater, probably, than the individual is apt to realize. This sort of control prepossesses leadership and here, more clearly than elsewhere in the county, can the source and the activities of that leadership be discerned. Economically it is the leadership of the farmer who has himself succeeded; morally and religiously it is the leadership of the older, tried members of the Meeting. Always it is quite unostentatious and self-effacing.

So far we have been looking at the favorable aspects of this community and have been constrained to praise rather than to criticism. But in conclusion we may point out that if this community is to reach its maximum development and fill the place of its maximum usefulness, if indeed it is to maintain its present level, there are certain pertinent problems for which it must find a solution. There is its *race problem*, less acute here than elsewhere, and also in process of solution, but important, nevertheless. Had Sandy Spring had for its negro population only the descendants of that group of negroes originally given their freedom, and trained there under such admirable auspices, its problem would not now

SANDY SPRING HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS CLUB

be a very serious one. But the negroes have been migratory; favorable conditions have attracted to the neighborhood many brought up under very different circumstances, and it is never easy to make a shifting population respond to the stimulus of social standards. The problem of the relation of the negro to the rural community is in many respects more acute now than ever before; even though apparently nearer solution. Sandy Spring must remember that the status of the entire community may be expected to be influenced, intellectually and morally and certainly economically, by the status of the negro within its bounds. It must make more determined efforts than ever to raise him to a higher level of industry, morality and trained efficiency.

There is also a present *social problem*, the problem, we may say, of a *social ministry*. There is a class of whites living in this neighborhood on a distinctly inferior level; a class almost without social life; a class with lower standards and ideals. These are the marginal people of the community, and they are the people whose welfare must ultimately condition the welfare of the community as a whole. The service to the marginal man is not charity; it is necessity. How this problem is to be solved is for the community itself to determine. The Grange began as a leveling and uniting force, reaching, to be sure, only a small portion of

these people, but now, after forty years of existence, it has ceased to fulfill that function and has become an organization of a single group.

Closely connected with this is the problem of achieving a closer degree of *cooperation with the rest of the county*. Friends are known as propogandists and reformers, and have a reputation of being clannish. These two things have made it hard for them to exert the influence which they should exert upon the county. There is room for aggressive leadership along many lines; better farming, more thorough coöperation, more efficient organization and greater social compactness and continuity.

Lastly we may mention the *problem of self-preservation*. We have already pointed out the source of this problem and we can hardly venture an opinion as to its solution, but the indications are that it will be more acute in fifty years than now.

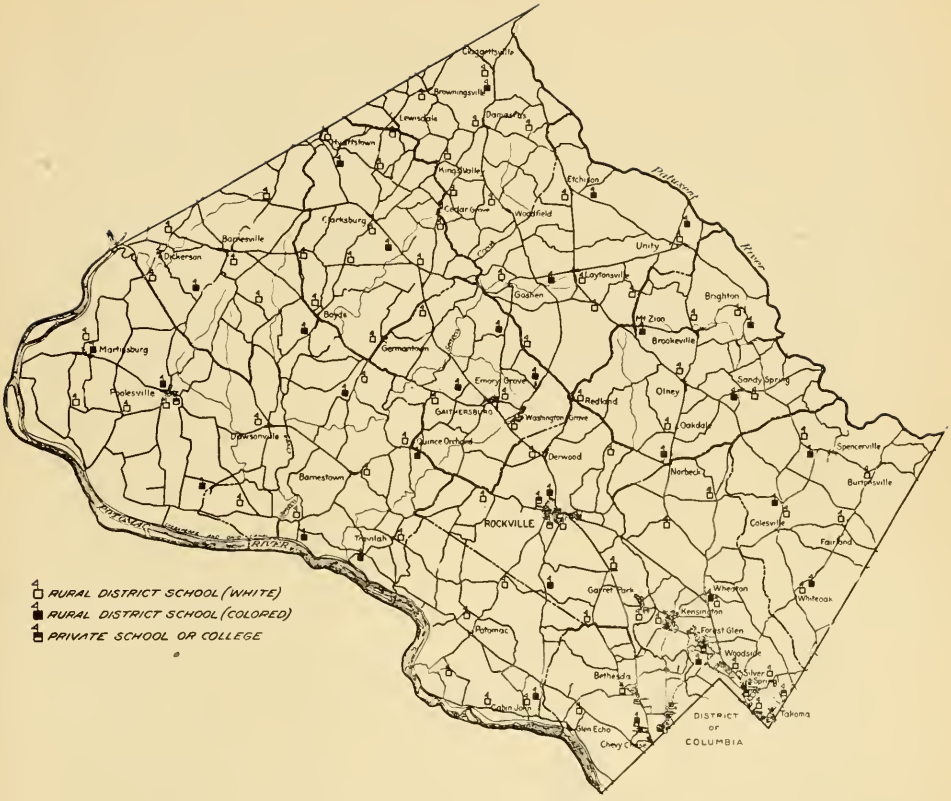
These are problems which the community must set itself to solve. To aid it it has strong memories, a developed social pride, and a high degree of social compactness, along with those prime necessities, a sound economic policy and a developed and apparently permanent prosperity.

## EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

Some time during the current year the United States Bureau of Education will probably publish a bulletin on the educational conditions in Montgomery County which will contain in detail all the information gathered by this survey, including a full discussion of all public and private schools. In consequence, only the outstanding features of the educational situation will be discussed here, and the reader is referred to the Government bulletin for a detailed account.

### The Public School System

The supervision of the public schools of the county is entrusted to a county superintendent and a board of six commissioners, appointed by the governor of the State for a term of years. Each school has its local trustees, charged with the immediate oversight of its affairs and coöperating with the county board, which has complete control over the county system. The appointment of teachers and all matters of policy and administration rest with this board and the superintendent. This type of organization has one great weakness, to which we have already referred, which is, that thereby the schools are put most distinctly into politics. In the actual results produced, the fact that the superintendent and the commissioners owe their appointment to political influence may or may not work detriment to the schools. In the present instance it so happens that it does not. The men now filling these positions are all highly efficient men, genuinely concerned for the welfare of the schools and serving them faithfully and with marked ability. The record made




MAP NO. 1—LOCATION OF SCHOOLS

during the present administration clearly proves that. The condition in itself, however, is undesirable, if for no other reason than that it makes the tenure of office uncertain and hampers the officials in putting into effect any permanent policy of administration and development, which it obviously requires more than two or four or six years to accomplish.

There are in all 106 schools in the county, 76 for white pupils and 30 for colored. There is one white school for every 101 of the white population of school age (5 to 20 years) and one colored school for every 103 of the colored children. Each election district has from two to nine white schools; twelve of the districts have from one to four colored schools each. (For the exact location of these schools see the map above.) No section of the county is without its white school reasonably accessible, while there is no considerable settlement of negroes without a colored school near. The 76 white schools include 7 high schools and 17 grammar schools. The policy of the present administration has been one of expansion. Twenty-six new school houses have been built within the

last six years; only 6 of these have been one-room schools. In all the county there is only one consolidated school with public transportation of pupils; this is located at Poolesville. The white schools are in session 188 days a year, but the colored schools are in session only 140 days, except in a few cases in which private subscription makes it possible to keep them open longer.

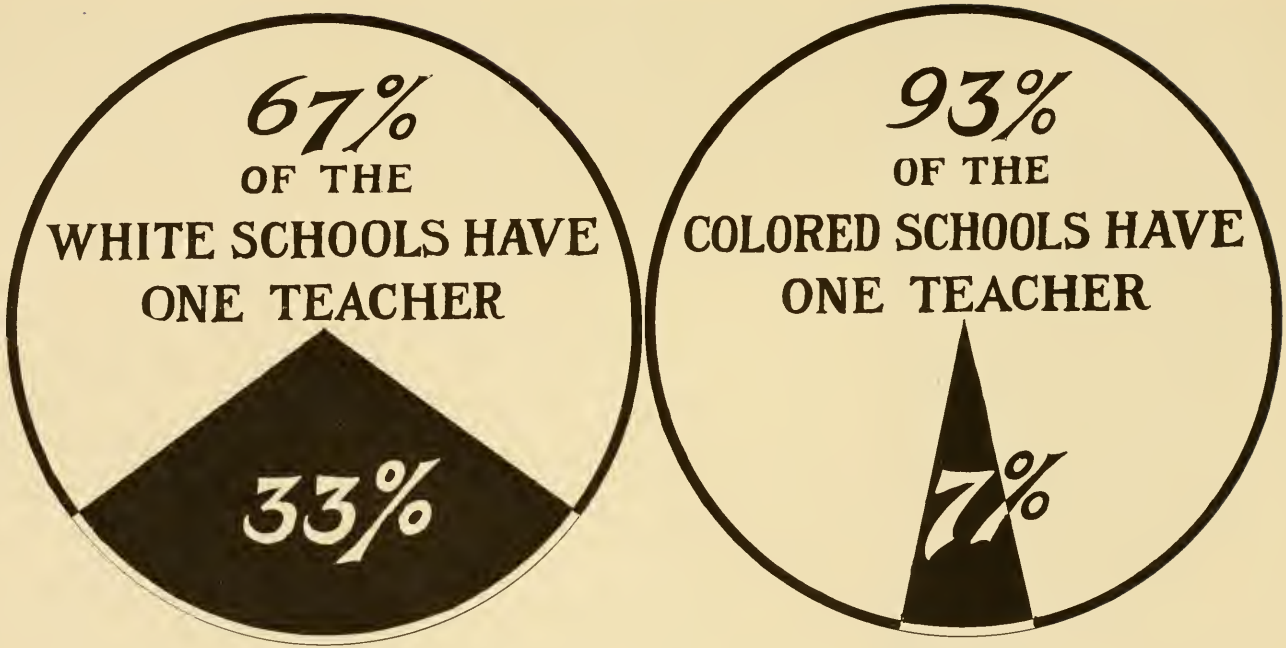
### The Material Equipment

*Buildings.* The 76 white schools occupy 77 buildings; 70 of these are frame structures, 5 are of brick and 2 are of stone. The total number of rooms is 151, of which 140 were last year used for school purposes; 51 of the schools were one-room, one-teacher schools. The law requires the maintenance of a certain average attendance before two teachers can be assigned to one school, so that a number of two-room buildings were in effect only one-room schools. This proportion of one-teacher schools, 67% of the total number, raises a problem which is, in a way, at the crux of the whole situation.

The most frequent criticism aimed at the rural schools of recent years has been that they have borrowed their course of study and their teaching methods from the city schools, and have offered the country pupil nothing distinctively adapted to his actual sphere in life. In another connection we will discuss the movement for the broadening of the curriculum of the rural schools by the introduction of studies which aim directly to equip the students for farm life. This is a thing for which there is an ever-growing demand. Yet it must be remembered that there is an equally insistent demand for more highly efficient teaching in the rural schools and a general improvement of the class of work done. This brings us again to our point that 67% of the schools are one-teacher schools.

It will readily be seen that in a school in which one teacher has charge of 30 or more pupils in eight different grades, with the average length of the recitation period only 15 minutes, any movement to increase the efficiency of the teaching must begin by narrowing rather than broadening the curriculum. It is only when the teaching force is multiplied that the curriculum can be broadened and the general efficiency at the same time increased. In the main, this situation has raised the question of the *consolidation* of schools.

As we have said, there is at the present time only one consolidated school in the county with public transportation of pupils, though several other schools, notably the Sandy Spring and Brookeville High Schools, are in effect consolidated schools. It is the hope of the School Administration to put into effect in the near future a policy of gradually consolidating the schools at convenient centres, with a view to covering ultimately




HAVE TWO OR MORE TEACHERS

HAVE

DIAGRAM NO. V

the entire county in this fashion. This "ultimately," however, probably means the dim, dim future, as will subsequently be brought out in our discussion of the attitude of the school patrons toward their school problems.

In general it may be said that the equipment of the white schools for school purposes is above the average for similar communities. On the credit side of the ledger we may mention that all the buildings are in good repair; nearly half of them have been built within the last ten years. All but 13 have ample seating facilities. Practically all have a sufficient number of globes, maps and charts, while all have sufficient school books and other materials furnished the pupils without cost by the county. In the majority of the rooms some attention has been paid to the æsthetic; practically all have pictures, drawings or other decorations of some sort, representing all degrees of artistic appreciation, but for the most part producing a pleasing effect. Rockville High School deserves special mention in this connection. This school has recently purchased some excellent plaques and friezes at a cost of several hundred dollars. Twenty-eight of the schools are provided with some sort of musical instrument.

All but 11 schools have a good water supply; 46 have wells and 9 have springs on the school property or within convenient distance. Sanitary conditions are in the main good. All but four schools have outside toilets, but only 12 of these are in any way unsanitary. Fifty per-cent. have cloak rooms for the pupils. Certain other things must be entered on the debit side of the ledger. In general it must be confessed that school architects have paid altogether insufficient attention to the question of proper methods of lighting, heating and ventilation. Nearly 90% of the rooms have cross lighting; a number of rooms have windows so placed that the pupils must face the light; in only 16 rooms is the lighting adjacent. Seven of the buildings are furnace heated and ten are equipped with jacketed stoves; the remainder retain the unjacketed stove, in spite of its obvious disadvantages. The ventilation is often very poor. The seating of the pupils is for the most part at the old-fashioned double desks. Twenty-two per-cent. of all rooms have single desks and 3 rooms report desks that are adjustable. Only 6 schools are provided with teachers' rooms.

Nearly all of the colored schools are in a more or less delapidated condition. All the buildings are frame. One school holds its sessions in a church. The total number of rooms is 38 of which 34 are actually used for school purposes. Twenty-eight of the schools, or 93%, are one-teacher schools. Twenty-eight are equipped with double, non-adjustable desks; 25 are heated with non-jacketed stoves; all have cross-lighting. In 16 the seating facilities are not ample. Nine have an

A COUNTRY SCHOOL—"UNTOLD POSSIBILITIES FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE LIE DORMANT IN SUCH SCHOOLS AS THIS"

insufficient number of maps, charts and globes; 27 are without any sort of muscial instrument; only one has a cloak room and none have teachers' rooms; 10 are without water supply; nearly one-half have unsanitary toilets. Free school-books and other materials are provided by the county, usually in sufficient quantity.

*Grounds.* The grounds of the white schools have a total acreage of 98½. There is no school without a fair plot of ground. Thirteen of the school lots are fenced, 36 are fairly level, 11 have good walks; 63 have shade trees, 13 have flower beds. The 30 colored schools are provided with approximately 24 acres of ground. Several schools have no grounds. The average lot is about three-fourths of an acre. Only 7 of the lots are fenced and only 6 have walks; 16 are reasonably level; 23 have shade trees and 3 have flower beds. The school equipment has in the past taken only very slightly into account the play side of school life. Very few of the rural schools have ground adapted for use as play grounds, though the high schools are fairly well provided for in this respect. Only 11 schools, all white, have any play apparatus; these 11 include the Rockville, Brookeville and Sandy Spring High Schools, which are exceptionally well furnished in this respect. Most of the schools, however, leave their pupils very much to their own devices during play hours, and there is but little attempt to lead or direct them. Of the white schools 29 and of colored schools 2 possess American flags—31 out of 106.

*Value.* The total value of the school property owned by the county is $165,800; $155,050 of this amount is invested in buildings and grounds

for white schools; $10,750 is invested in colored schools. The average value of each white school is about $2,095; of each colored school, $470.

### The Teaching Force

The white schools have a teaching force of 128, 27 male and 101 female. An attempt was made to obtain accurate information as to the training of these teachers, and although our data are incomplete and not always reliable, it appears that a fair proportion, probably 25%, have had a college or normal-school training. Somewhat more than half of the whole number have had the equivalent of a high school course, while the remainder have had only a grade school training. Fifty-two reported first-grade, first-class certificates. The 30 colored schools were in the charge of 33 teachers, 6 male and 27 female. Of this number, 27 reported that they had had a normal or industrial school training.

It has been observed in many rural districts that one of the chief weaknesses of the schools has arisen from the fact that the teaching force is so constantly shifting. In 3 counties surveyed in Missouri, for example, it was found that practically all of the rural teachers moved every year and that changes were frequently made during the school term. The causes of this condition are various but the results are fairly constant. The one-year teacher can only begin to understand the pupils and the community she is to serve and get ahold of the particular problems of the school. Each year the process is to be gone through with and can never be completed. At least three or four years in one community are necessary before the best result can be obtained. In Montgomery County, on the whole, quite favorable conditions prevail. All the teachers reported the length of time which they had held their present positions. The average for the white teachers was four years and for the colored teachers three years. This average is in part due to a few cases of exceptionally long tenure, but a large proportion of the teachers reported that they had held their present positions two years or more. The average number of positions held during the last five years was, for white teachers, 1.6, and for colored teachers, 1.8. The average number of years of teaching experience was 8.1 and 9.6 years for white and colored teachers, respectively. The advice of the President of the Colored Teachers' Association to the teachers on this point of tenure of position was brief and pithy. "Stay in a locality until you know it and make the people love you; but leave while they are still loving you." Fifty-five of the white teachers and 30 of the colored reported that it was their intention to teach permanently. About 50 white teachers had definitely decided to give up teaching. The remaining number, mostly young ladies, expressed themselves as undecided. Last year

the average salary paid the white teachers was $440.48; the colored teachers received on the average, $174. The salary paid is in part dependent upon the average attendance maintained by the particular school over which the teacher presides, there being a uniform scale throughout the county.

### The Pupils

The total population of the county between the ages of 5 and 20 years is approximately 10,800, of which number 7,710 are white and 3,090 are colored. The total enrollment of the schools, white and colored, for the year 1911 to 1912, was 5,709 or 52.8% of the population of school age. For the entire continental United States, according to the Census of 1910, the proportion of the population of school age enrolled in the schools was 62.8%. Montgomery County, then, is nearly 10% below the average for the country (even allowing for the number attending private schools and colleges.) Of the total enrollment, 3,726 were in regular attendance. This last means that 65.5% of the children of the county did *not* attend the public schools regularly.

*White Schools.* The highest total enrollment of the white schools last year was 3,927 or 50.9% of the white population of school age. The total average attendance was 2,639 or 67.3% of the enrollment. This made an average attendance of 34.7 pupils per school.

The proportion of pupils enrolled in each grade begins to decrease after the fourth grade and drops off sharply after the sixth. (Table No. 18, Appendix, page VI).

The district showing the best average attendance was Bethesda,

GREEN BUT GROWING

with 78.2% of the enrollment in regular attendance. Olney and Rockville were second and third respectively, with 78.1% and 73.3%. The poorest average attendance was shown by the Barnesville District, with 52% of its enrollment in regular attendance. Potomac was a close second, with 53%. Evidently it would seem that the attendance at the schools is very closely related to the question of transportation facilities and roads. Throughout the county it holds true that in those districts accessable to trolley lines and railroads or equipped with good roads, the average attendance is high. In those districts having poor roads and no other transportation facilities available for school purposes, the average attendance is low. For the entire county the average distance from the school to the home of the pupil is about 1.2 miles, but for those pupils living in the open country the average distance is greater, for at least an appreciable number travel three miles or more from their homes to the school. As we have said, there is only one school in the county that provides transportation for its pupils to the school. The State Legislature has just passed a "compulsory education" law which it is hoped will make for a higher proportion of the school population enrolled and in regular attendance.

In 1911 all of the schools of the county graduated 69 pupils, 23 boys and 46 girls. Of this number it is reported that 14 boys and 19 girls went to higher schools. How little these schools have been attempting to do for the pupils enrolled in them, over and above the routine teaching of the prescribed lessons, may in part be gathered from the fact that there were last year in existence, only 13 student organizations of any sort in all the schools of the county; of this number 8 were literary and debating societies; 2 were athletic associations and 1 was a boys' brigade. The total membership of the 13 societies was about 250.

In 1911 the first step was taken toward a larger service to the boys in the schools when a Corn-growing contest was initiated by the president of the Board of School Commissioners. This contest was a success in a small way, but not much interest was manifested in it. This year it is being repeated under the auspices of the Agricultural High School at Sandy Spring and will be made a permanent feature. A number of prizes ranging from $5.00 to $50 are offered and the contest is open to all boys from ten to eighteen years of age. Each boy must plant one acre of corn, doing all the work himself except the plowing. The basis used in the awarding of prizes is 40% for the greatest yield per acre; 40% for the best showing of profit on the investment and 20% for the best written account giving the history of the crop. The boys are required to render an exact account of all the time spent in doing the work and of their expenditure for seed, fertilizer, etc. The contest this year has been well advertised and great interest is being shown.

*Colored Schools.* The highest total enrollment of the colored schools for the year of 1911/12 was 1,782 which is 57.6% of the colored population of school age, a better showing than the white schools have made in this regard. The total average attendance was 1,087 or 60.9% of the enrollment, a proportionately smaller average than that maintained by the white schools. The average attendance per school was 36. The average attendance in the different districts varies greatly for no very evident reason. The highest per-cent. was shown by the Clarksburg District with 75%, while in the adjoining district of Damascus the average attendance was only 32.5% of the enrollment.

After the fourth grade the enrollment begins to decrease rapidly and only four schools have any pupils enrolled above the sixth grade. (Table No. 19, Appendix, page VI). These schools graduated in 1911, only 4 pupils, 1 boy and 3 girls, but it was reported that all of these went on to higher schools. The average distance from the school to the home of the pupils for the county, is about one and a quarter miles.

In the matter of organizations for the pupils, the colored schools do even less than the white schools, there being only four organizations among the 30 schools; 2 of these are literary societies and 2 are temperance societies; they have a total membership of 260.

## The Curriculum

*White Schools.* The teacher in the one-room school has a multiplicity of things to do and a very limited time to do them in. This is the prime reason why the criticism holds true here as everywhere where the one-room school flourishes, that the curriculum of the rural school contains very little that distinctly prepares for country life. In spite of the fact that conditions are far better here than in many rural communities, the fact remains that each teacher in the county must conduct on the average, twenty-three recitations per day, with the average time allotted each recitation, only fifteen minutes. Such a program leaves opportunity for very little beyond the limits of the presecribed course of study.

The greater proportion of the schools give no time at all to those studies which are of special importance for country life (See Table No. 20, Appendix, page VI); namely, Nature Study, Elementary Agriculture, Manual Training, and Domestic Science. The same is true of Music and Drawing. Only a small number attempt to teach these subjects thoroughly. Sandy Spring and Brookeville High Schools share between them the entire time of one man in teaching of Elementary Agriculture. Four schools have each a special teacher of Domestic Science, three schools share the time of one man as an instructor of Manual Training and one school has a special teacher giving her entire time to the teaching of music.

DARNESTOWN ACADEMY

*Colored Schools.* The teachers in the colored schools have an average of twenty recitations per day each, and the average length of the recitation period is 18 minutes. Even less time is given in these schools than in the white schools to the teaching of the special subjects mentioned above. (Table No. 21, Appendix, page VI).

The most interesting school in this connection is the Sharp Street Industrial School near Sandy Spring. An industrial exhibit for all the colored schools was held last spring, and the results showed that in the schools where industrial training is undertaken at all, the work is of a very high class all things considered, and suggested that here is a field of education that has hardly been touched and which it would be well worth while to develop.

### The School as a Social Center

Forty-six white schools and 17 colored schools report a total of 176 public entertainments given by the schools during the last school year. These were of various sorts: Lectures, debates, concerts, programs of miscellaneous recitations, mock trials, etc. For the main part, they were well attended.

### The School Budget

The total cost of operating the schools for the year 1910/1911 was $118,355.62. Of this amount, $99,771.59 was expended directly on the white schools; $8,448.08 was expended directly on the colored schools; the remainder, $10,135.95, went for supervision, office expenses, interest, cancellation of indebtedness, etc. That is to say, of every dollar spent,

85 cents is spent on the white schools, 7 cents on the colored schools, and 8 cents on adminstration, etc. (Table No. 22, on page VII of the Appendix is an itemized account of how $1 of the school's money is spent.) The average total cost of maintaining a white school is $1,407.16 per year; a colored school costs only $379.92 per year. The average total cost of educating each white pupil in regular attendance is $40.55 per year; the annual expense to the county of each colored pupil is $10.49. The white schools cost the county $568.88 per day in session, which is $7.48 per school per day. The colored schools cost $81.38 per day in session, or $2.71 per school per day. (See Table No. 23, Appendix page VII, for total figures on the various items of expense.) From this it would appear that colored pupils are an economy, but that white pupils are, in fact, a luxury.

The question of where the school's money comes from is interesting from several points of view. (Table No. 24, on page VII of the Appendix, "Where $1 of the School's Money Comes From," is a statement of the various sources of income.) Just 61.7% of the school's income is raised by taxation. The county's receipts from the State school levy of $16\frac{1}{8}$ cents on each $100 were $26,830.41; from the county levy of 31.4 cents per $100, $47,500. The total receipts from all sources were $120,895.90. The tax levy, of course, is on the basis of the assessed valuation of the property, which for the county over is not three-quarters of the actual value, so that in point of fact the total tax levy for school purposes hardly represents .35 per cent. Twenty-four per cent. of all money raised is acquired by loans, a much higher per cent. than in any other county in the State. For the entire State, loans represent only 4.6% of the entire amount raised. There is no way in which the school expenses can be cut down. In fact, increased expenditure will be required if the schools are to make substantial progress in the future. It would seem that the tax payers are guilty of a short-sighted policy in compelling the school administration to raise by loans 24% of the money needed for necessary expenses.

### The Schools Twelve Years Ago

A bulletin of the department of labor prepared by Prof. W. T. Thom summarizes the school situation for the year 1898/99 as follows: "In 1898/99 the county had 114 public schools, which were open nine months. Of these 81 were white schools, with 100 teachers (33 male and 67 female), 82 of the buildings, valued at $51,375, being owned by the county, and 33 were colored schools, with 40 teachers (9 males and 31 females), 25 of the buildings, valued at $9,615, being owned by the county. The average yearly salary of the teachers was $328.90. For these schools the county received from the State School tax $16,181.30; from the free-school fund,

$2,154.35; from State appropriation for colored schools, $7,477.44. The county levy was $30,000, and the receipts from all sources, including balance on hand, were $59,546.60." This shows that in most respects substantial progress has been made.

## PATRONS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In order really to estimate the significance of the public school system and to place the proper value upon the work which it is doing, it is necessary to ascertain what place it actually fills in the total life of the community. The first step toward this end is to consider the schools objectively, *i.e.*, investigate the material equipment, the teaching force, the enrollment and attendance and all the various activities of each individual school. This we have already done, but it is quite conceivable that one might have a correct understanding of all these points and still fail to grasp the significance of the school. It is also necessary to understand the attitude of the people toward the schools. This aspect of the inquiry into the educational conditions was undertaken with several ends in view:

(*a*) To discover whether the school patrons feel that the schools as actually operated are serving their respective communities in a satisfactory manner.

(*b*) To discover what they consider the greatest weaknesses of the schools, whether as locally conducted or as conceived in the general "system."

(*c*) To learn what they would suggest in the way of improvement and particularly what would be their attitude toward the adoption of a policy of consolidation with the public transportation of pupils.

(*d*) Lastly, by means of these inquiries it was hoped that some light might be thrown on the general temper and attitude of the people of the county. Two lines of approach were followed. In the course of the general survey of the county the investigators discussed various phases of the school question, both privately with numbers of representative men and women, and publicly at meetings of farmers' clubs and similar organizations. In addition to this, that the results might be more representative of the entire body of the people, a questionaire was prepared. Copies of this were sent by the superintendent of schools to all the teachers throughout the county, who were requested by him to obtain from the heads of families in their districts written answers to the six more or less pertinent questions on the blanks. These questions were as follows:

1. What, in your opinion, are the principal weaknesses of the country schools?

2. Do the schools need a different course of study?

3. How may they serve the community other than as an ordinary day school for children?

4. Do you think consolidation of schools and the transportation of pupils in school wagons feasible?

5. Are the schools as they now are satisfactorily progressive?

6. What would you suggest to improve them?

The total number of public school patrons in the county was roughly estimated as about 2,800, of which number 2,000 were patrons of white schools and 800 of the colored. Both groups were included in the investigation. About 2,000 blanks were distributed and about 700 were returned filled out. The investigators labor under no delusion as to the efficacy of the questionaire method to finally exhaust any subject. They appreciate thoroughly the danger of trusting too implicitly in the accuracy and value of answers to set questions asked in this fashion. Also, they realize that the number of blanks returned is hardly a sufficient proportion of the whole number to form a safe basis for any final conclusions. The answers, however, seem quite representative. They came from all classes and conditions of people and represent all degrees of education and general enlightenment. Moreover, though differing widely from each other in many particulars and including many shades and varieties of opinion, there are yet certain general lines of cleavage running through them all.

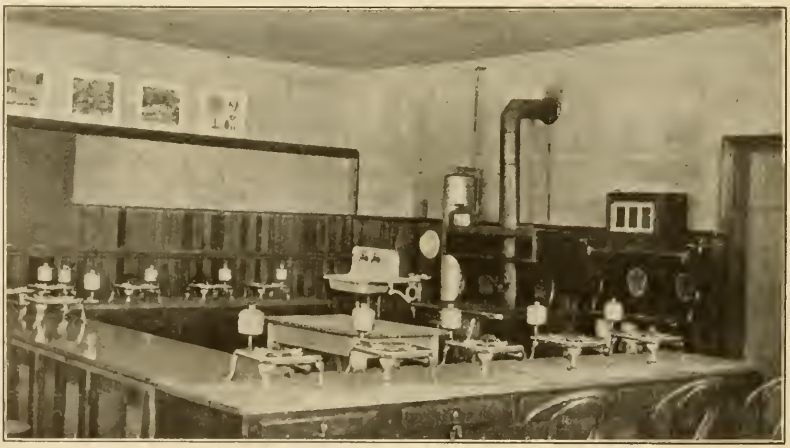
As a result, then, of the two lines of inquiry followed, certain conclusions seem safely established. First let us consider the white schools. It is apparent that on the whole the county is proud of its school system and is satisfied that its present administration is making substantial progress along the right lines. Fifteen per cent. of the patrons answering would offer no criticisms at all, displaying a complacent satisfaction which hardly argues for any great amount of thought or labor expended in making themselves conversant with the school situation and the problems which it involves. Sixty-five per cent. however, considered the schools as satisfactorily progressive and gave good reasons for their belief. In fact, a considerably larger proportion endorsed the school administration, even while offering criticisms and suggestions for improvement.

In this connection a somewhat anomalous situation was brought to light. The chief criticisms advanced were aimed, not so much at the method of conducting particular schools or at any particular points in the methods of supervision and general administration practiced in the county, as at the *whole principle involved in such a school system.* Implicitly and explicitly the principle of small, isolated, one-room schools was attacked. Certain weaknesses inherent in such a system were clearly indicated. Certain remedies fundamentally involving a departure from such a system were advocated. Yet it was evidently not often clear in the minds of the writers where the remedy for the

defects which they pointed out must inevitably lead or what sort of a reconstruction the reforms which they suggested would make necessary.

Seventy-five percent. of the answers received worked around in one way or another to certain main points which we will indicate. There are too few teachers for the amount of work to be covered. Each teacher is compelled to teach too many grades. The common branches are not taught with sufficient thoroughness and yet the special branches, of more value to the country pupils, cannot be undertaken at all. There is no room in the curriculum for specialization, nor would the teachers be able to prepare themselves for it if there were. The salaries are too low and in consequence there are too many relatively inefficient, poorly trained teachers. There is no proper inducement for highly trained men and women, desirous of making teaching a life work rather than a temporary means of gaining a livelihood, to devote themselves to the work of education in the country. The buildings and equipment are not always up to the standard and the rooms are frequently overcrowded. The work is not carried far enough in those schools upon which a majority of the pupils are dependent. Eight grades are offered in the one-room schools. In many sections any pupils desiring work beyond that point must travel away from home to obtain it. This the children of poorer families are not able to do and consequently their education is brought to a premature close. The attendance of pupils, particularly of the younger pupils, is very irregular whenever weather and roads are bad and consequently satisfactory results are hard to obtain.

The demand for more highly specialized courses of study was particularly insistent. There is a widespread feeling expressed in many



MAKING THE SCHOOL SERVE THE HOME. DOMESTIC SCIENCE LABORATORY, ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

ways that the country schools do not adequately prepare for country life; that they are simply city schools on a small scale and with poorer equipment, removed out of the environment to which they are best adapted. Suggestions which found many supporters had to do with the introduction of classes in agriculture and nature study, in domestic science and manual training and in the principles of business procedure. Such courses have already been introduced into a number of the schools in the county with success and the outlying districts where they are more needed wish to share in their advantages. As one instance of this feeling we may cite a meeting of the Goshen Farmers' Club at which this question was discussed for nearly five hours. The hypothetical proposition about which the discussion revolved was this: A certain large sum of money is now raised by taxation in Montgomery County for the support of the Maryland State Agriculture College. Is Montgomery County getting the largest possible return for money spent in this fashion or might the amount be more profitable used for the purpose of teaching the principles of agriculture in the public schools? The thirty representative farmers present finally put themselves on record as in favor of certain propositions, namely, that the principles of scientific agriculture by all means ought to be taught to country children; that the proper medium for this is the public school system; that, therefor, such courses ought to be established in every school and finally that the money now raised for the support of the Agricultural College would produce better results if used in that fashion. At a meeting of the Montgomery Farmers' Club of Sandy Spring a similar proposition received the general support of those present. This seems to be the attitude of the progressive and thinking element among the farmers throughout the county. They are ready to have the ordinary branches of study supplemented by these special branches. As we have already seen, the smaller schools are doing very little and in the nature of the case can not do more to meet this demand.

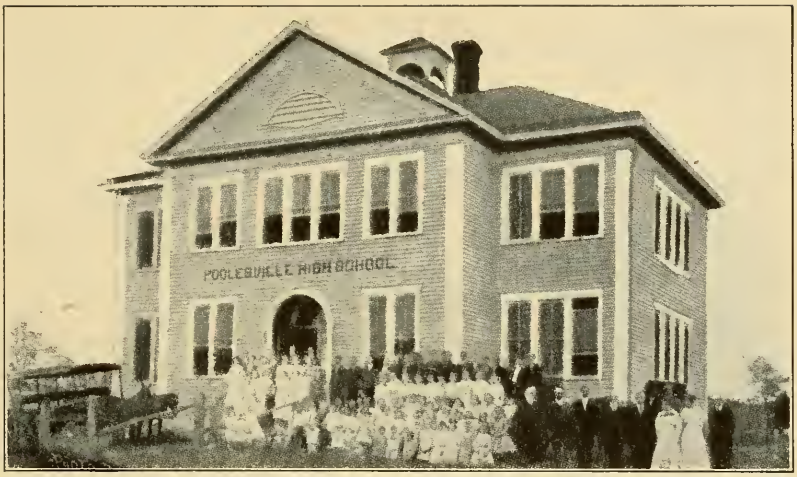
These defects in the schools, which we have mentioned (for they undoubtedly are defects and serious ones), we are ready to assert are *inherent* in a system of isolated one room schools. While the one-room school remains it will always be open to such criticisms. This is a condition which the school administration is helpless to cope with unless public sentiment is ready to support them in a sweeping policy of reconstruction and reform. They recognize more clearly than most that these things are true and that because of these things the schools are not doing anywhere near all that they might be doing. One thing is very obvious; in the present state of public enlightenment on the school question which, being interpreted, means in the present condition of the school finances, it is quite impossible to completely remedy these

conditions. The school administration is to a very great extent dependent upon the sentiment of the people, not only to furnish them adequate funds but also to give them moral support. Neither of these things have been forthcoming in sufficient quantities to permit any very fundamental reconstruction.

The fact is that only two ways to remedy the conditions we have mentioned seem open. One way would be to increase the present number of schools, making each school at least a two-room graded school equipped with all the best modern appliances; to double or treble the remuneration offered the teachers, thus attracting to these schools men and women thoroughly trained and highly efficient, and in addition to provide specialists to teach the various branches of agriculture, domestic science, manual training, business, music and drawing in each and every school. Even this would not completely remedy certain defects and there are so many obstacles, both financial and otherwise, in its way that such a policy could not be carried out.

The other way is the logical way out of the difficulty under existing circumstances and offers the maximum of advantage with the minimum of expenditure and waste. This is as rapidly as possible, to abolish the cross-roads, one-room school with its one poorly paid teacher struggling to teach thirty or more pupils in eight different grades everything from the alphabet to higher mathematics, and consolidate at convenient centers. Grades of high school rank could be added to each such school and enough specialists provided to teach the various courses that are at present necessarily omitted from the curriculum. Public transportation could be provided for the pupils, thus doing away with irregular attendance on account of bad weather and poor roads. This policy, however, the people in those districts which suffer most under the present system are not yet ready to endorse. The vote among all the school patrons was two to one against consolidation with public transportation of pupils.

It is not our present purpose to attempt to prepare a brief for consolidation. That lies quite outside our province as Investigators. We would simply point out that in a Consolidated School it is quite possible to remedy the defects and meet the demands we have mentioned; to broaden the curriculum, increase the number of grades and at the same time raise the standard of teaching efficiency. Several thousand schools in the United States are doing this to-day and doing it successfully. Nor is the cost of this prohibitive, for the expense of maintaining such a school is but little more than the expense of maintaining the various smaller schools which it displaces, once the initial cost of building and equipment is met. For example the Baltimore County Agricultural High School, one of the finest and most complete schools of its kind




THE ONLY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL IN THE COUNTY

in the country, provides just such a training as we have in mind and couples with an extensive and varied service to the community as a whole at a total cost per year of only $34 per pupil. The schools in Montgomery County cost $40.55 per pupil. In the strictly rural schools the cost is at least $30 and surely such a school as we have mentioned would be worth $5 per pupil more.

The question of consolidation is a point on which there needs to be much agitation and a long process of public education. We use the term "education" advisedly. At the present time the question is entirely misapprehended by the great many who oppose it. Many advance the argument that public transportation of school children would never be satisfactory because attended by such grave moral dangers to the children or because the children would be continually taking cold waiting for the wagon. We would hardly consider these difficulties, if they are difficulties, as being insurmountable. Furthermore, we do not think that what is involved in the query was clearly understood by the man who answered by saying: "I did not know that the schools had a wagon in them to transfer the pupils to the different rooms" or by the one who wrote "No, the children are away from home too long as it is", or, again, by the man who declared that he did "not think it right for the school children to hang on the wagons passing along the road."

Aside from such criticisms as these aimed fundamentally at the entire "system" other interesting criticisms were made touching points more easily dealt with. For example many asserted the chief weakness of

the schools to be in the lack of intelligent coöperation on the part of parents and trustees. They asserted that a teacher could not be expected to conduct a school to the entire satisfaction of a community unless she had such coöperation from the patrons and the Board of Trustees. Others pointed out defects in ventilation, or lighting, or sanitary conveniences, or expressed regret at the lack of proper play grounds, recreational facilities and attractive surroundings. These things they considered an important part of the school's equipment. Still others very properly advocated the elimination of politics from the school system. One wrote in language that deserves to become classic: "I respectfully suggest that the school goes to Reno, secures a divorce from politics and sees to it that politics gets a life sentence at hard labor."

Certain other important improvements were suggested, as for example a compulsory school attendance law (which, as we have said, has just been passed by the State Legislature to go into effect this fall) a more uniform and careful grading of the schools to facilitate passage from one school to another in case of removal; some system of moral training; facilities for giving proper attention to deficient and backward children. These are all points deserving careful consideration.

The question as to whether the school could serve the community other than as an ordinary day school for children was asked with the possibility in mind of making the school something of a neighborhood center ministering to the community as a whole, as well as dispensing elementary knowledge to its youth. Many of the answers anticipated this conception of the school's possible function. "Make it a social and civic center" was frequently suggested. "Make it a place where the school patrons may meet both formally and informally to discuss needs of mutual interest and import." Few of the schools are at the present time doing anything of this sort for their patrons but this is a field possible of rather extensive development which would add materially to the value of the school to a community.

By the fifth question "are the schools as they are now operated satisfactorily progressive" we wanted to learn if the people felt that the school administration had been making sufficiently substantial progress in adapting the schools to changing conditions and in keeping up with the modern ideas of school administration, equipment and teaching methods. Of course it was discovered that there are those who have no conception of progress either of its nature or of its reason for being; who feel as one expressed it "that we have the same old arithemetic, a geography discribing the same territories and the same methods of spelling, why should the school be progressive?" Why indeed? "the school is good enough as it is so let it be." For the most part, however, the attitude of the patrons was that progress is necessary and that the schools have been

making it to a satisfactory degree; that taking everything into account, they are doing all that can reasonably be expected of them.

Taking the county over it is undoubtedly true that the patrons are not sufficiently impressed with their responsibility toward the school. We have already remarked that the school provides a community, in its present state of organization, with its one great opportunity to act as a unit. In its religious life it is split up into denominations and factions; in its struggle for economic advancement, its members are working as individuals and not as a group. But the school is the property of the whole community and practically its only opportunity for concerted action. They have, however, almost uniformly failed to grasp the full significance of this opportunity and have frequently hampered the school administration sometimes by a total indifference, sometimes by active criticism and opposition to progressive policies, and always by not giving them sufficient funds to carry out their plans. Several happy exceptions are to be recorded. The Sandy Spring school was recently remodeled and the Woodside school was built with a large degree of local help. These two schools are receiving the intelligent and able coöperation of their communities.

The situation as regards the attitude of the colored patrons is simpler. Little needs to be said but that little may be said with emphasis. The same opinions were uniformly expressed by intelligent and ignorant alike, by preacher and layman, by teacher and patron. These all said in substance "give us a longer school term; give us better school buildings and equipment; pay our teachers more nearly adequate salaries; add to the curriculum courses in manual training and domestic science and extend the course of study through the eighth grade." These points, it will be seen, touch the real weaknesses of the colored schools.

Three ways were suggested by which the schools might enter upon a larger service for the colored population. These were: to conduct a night school for those who had been compelled to leave school early; to have classes in domestic science and industrial training out of school hours for any of the patrons who felt the need of instruction along those lines; and lastly to make of each school a social and civic center. As to the progressiveness of the schools the opinion was about evenly divided.

In general it must be said that the patrons of these schools display a most commendable interest in their welfare and progress. As we have said before in several instances they are helping to keep the schools open two months beyond proscribed term. In other respects they are for the most part ready to assist the teachers and respond gratefully to their influence.

THE EVOLUTION OF A COUNTRY SCHOOL

### The Education of Adults

It was hardly possible to include within the limits of a Survey such as this any careful study of the question of the education of adults. It was remarked in another connection that the number of illiterates in the white population is exceedingly small, hardly 2%. This is the only bit of information we have which can be stated in anything approaching statistical form. Many impressions, however, were formed as a result of ten weeks spent interviewing hundreds of people in all parts of the county. These impressions are perhaps as reliable a source of information on this point as figures would be.

The general educational level of the county is high. Various reasons may be assigned for this: the excellence of the public school system, the proximity of the City of Washington, the ready and constant communication which all parts of the county have with the outside world. The fact that the population is to so great an extent an American stock with very slight foreign element is important here; the recent tide of Southern European and Slavonic immigration has hardly touched this county. The conditions here are favorable to the development of an highly intelligent people and this is in the main what we find. Judging by the literature in the homes, by the general conversation, by the acquaintance with the problems of the day and other similar, objective tests, it is abundantly evident that a large proportion of the population are well-informed, cultured beyond the average for an agricultural section, and, for the most part, reasonably modern and progressive.

The stability of the population and the tenacity with which they naturally cling to their old ideas and traditions tend to make them a little suspicious of innovation. A man who has been living here for less than ten years is hardly thought of as a permanent resident yet; he is still a "new comer." There is a deep-rooted feeling, not always expressed but sufficiently understood, against any attempt on the part of such a "new comer" to change the established order and custom. Many influences are at work, however, to break down this prejudice. Economic pressure, for one thing, is forcing the adoption of new methods in business and agriculture. Social changes are erasing old lines. New ideas have found expression in the schools. These are forces to which the entire county most ultimately respond.

## PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

There are a number of private and educational institutions in the county but only two of them are of direct local importance, so our treatment of them may be brief. The Rockville Academy has practically the same course as the public schools, beginning with the sixth grade and continuing through the High School. It has a faculty of two and an

enrollment of about 35 to 40. Its pupils are drawn from Rockville and vicinity. There is also a Primary School conducted in Rockville with an enrollment of about 20. The pupils here are all from Rockville. This school is held in a private home, which is, however, very conveniently arranged. The Academy has a well-equipped brick building with fine grounds. It was first chartered over 100 years ago. In addition to these two we may mention a Military School for boys which will be opened in Poolesville this fall.

There are two Girls' Schools in the County, the Chevy Chase College and the National Park Seminary at Forest Glen. These draw all their patronage from outside the county. They have some effect upon the social and educational life of their respective neighborhoods and furnish employment for numbers of residents, but otherwise are not of local importance. Each school has beautiful grounds and splendid buildings.

The Bliss Electrical School at Takoma Park offers a one-year course in electrical engineering and kindred branches. It has two buildings for class rooms and laboratories and several dormitories. None of its

MAP NO. 11—LOCATION OF CHURCHES

students are from the county. The only other school in the county is a denominational one—the Seventh Day Adventist Foreign Missionary Seminary at Takoma Park. A few pupils from Takoma Park enter this school for high school branches, but their number is never great. The majority of the students come from other states to prepare for work on the foreign mission fields.

## RELIGIOUS CONDITIONS AND ACTIVITIES

There are in all in Montgomery County at the present time 135 churches in various conditions of health and activity. Of this number 95 are white churches and 40 are colored. It will be more convenient to consider these two groups separately, treating the white churches first.

### (a) Distribution

The total area of the county is 521 square miles and its total white population is 22,847. If the churches were evenly distributed there would be one white church to every 5½ square miles and to every 244 people. This ratio would provide more than adequate church facilities for the entire county. As regards the various Election Districts the distribution is quite uniform. There is no district without its fair quota, and no point in the county more than five miles from some church. As regards the distribution of the population, however, the churches are not evenly distributed. Fifteen per-cent. of the population live in the towns and villages and 85% live in the open country. Yet the country claims only 55% of the churches. Many of the town churches must rely for support upon the country, and many people in the country must look to the towns for their church life.

### (b) Denominational Classification, Membership and Growth

Eighty-six of the churches are Protestant and 9 are Roman Catholic. The Protestant churches represent 15 different denominations. The bulk of their strength, however, is divided between 5 denominations; 9 denominations have 3 churches or less. It is not our desire to emphasis the division of these churches into denominations. We hope that the day of denominational rivalry is passing and that all are coming to regard the question of ability to serve a given community efficiently as the only important question. On page VII, of the Appendix will be found a table showing denominational strength with respect to number of churches, membership, property, etc. Through the remainder of our discussion no distinction will be made except between Protestant and Catholic.

The total membership of all churches is 9,701, of whom 6,994 are Protestants and 2,707 Catholic. It is hardly possible to make a fair comparison here since the Catholic churches count in their membership

all members of families whose heads are affiliated with the church. Throughout this section, except where otherwise specified, only the Protestant churches will be referred to. Of the total white population, a little over 20,000 may be considered as Protestant or at least as non-Catholic. This means that every Protestant church has, on the average, a possible membership of 234. Just how well this possible field is cultivated may be inferred from the fact that the average membership of each church is only 81. Hardly 35% of the population are in the churches. This average membership includes a number of weak denominations; 9 denominations with 15 churches average only 35 members per church.

Sixty-two of the churches are growing; 3 are simply marking time; 16 are losing ground more or less rapidly; 5 are already on their death beds. Ten other churches not included in the total have passed away within recent years and must be numbered with the departed. Twenty-eight percent of the churches still in existence are not growing. We are accustomed to reading of rural communities that less than half of their churches are growing. Even so, to find that one out of every four churches has ceased to grow, or has not yet begun, might be considered as raising a serious problem of church efficiency. The mortality rate among humans is hardly as great as that among country churches. This failure of the church to survive may mean that its methods of work are defective and that it has been unable to adapt itself to changing conditions or to meet the demands of rural life. Here, the fact that the churches are really influencing only one-third of the population and that more than a fourth of them are failing to hold their own, is in part to be explained in this way; but in larger part it seems to mean that a certain proportion of the churches have been wrongly placed; have been established where they have no legitimate opportunity for growth, as the result, it may be, of some denominational rivalry or neighborhood prejudice. A weeding out process has been going on—a sort of natural selection. As a matter of fact the progress of the church as a whole has been substantial. In 1906 (the year of the United States Religious Census), the total membership of all white Protestant churches was 5,456. Since that time the total population of the county has increased less than 5% and outside of the Suburban Sections has actually decreased. Yet the churches have made a growth in membership of 1,538, or 28.2%. This is as good a record as could be asked for. During the last church year, 682 were added to the roll, 489 by confession or confirmation, representing an addition of more than 10% of the previous strength. All but 18 churches, or about 80% of the total number reported additions; the average number per church was 8.

It is not to be supposed that the entire membership of the churches

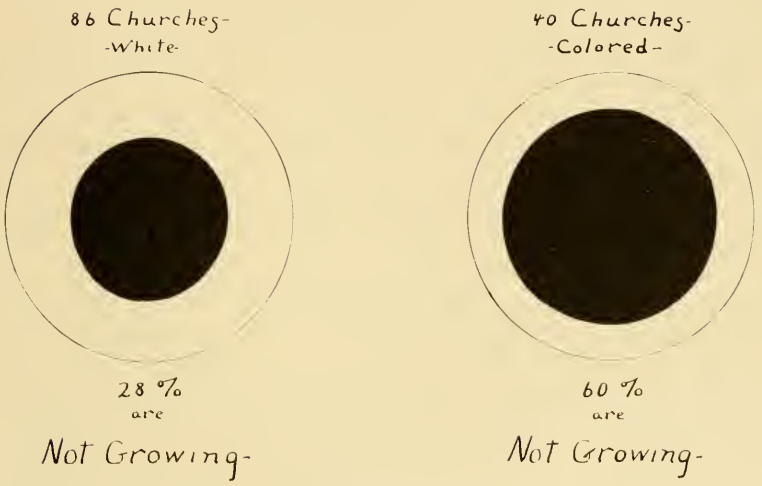



DIAGRAM NO. VI

is an active membership. Many church rolls need pruning. But in the lack of any more definite tests which could be applied it may be said that something like 5% appear to have ceased their support of the church.

### (c) The Church's Equipment for Service

The 86 Protestant-churches have 80 church buildings. These are of all sorts, ranging from the large, many-roomed building equipped with all modern conveniences to serve the community in manifold ways, down to the little one-room structure, with bare interior, equipped with nothing but a pulpit, some pews, a stove and a bell. Forty-four of these church buildings are one-room. These and a considerable number of the others were built with the one idea of the church as a place in which to hold a preaching service. Hardly a fourth of the churches have rooms which are well adapted for the use of their Sunday-schools. This statement must be qualified. Many of the buildings are adequate for the needs of the particular Sunday-schools which meet in them and according to the conception of a Sunday-school which prevails in many churches. But the modern Sunday-school as we conceive it requires more than a

small open auditorium. One Church, the M. E. S. of Rockville, has a special 12-room Sunday-school building erected three years ago at a cost of $3,000. Its Sunday-school is thriving. Other buildings, put up within recent years, have been planned with this need of separate class rooms in mind. But the proportion of the total number is still very small.

The entire amount invested in church property for these 86 churches is $364,757, an average of $4,395 per church. This is nearly three times the amount invested in school property. All the churches together have about 110 acres of ground; the average for the country churches is about 2½ acres per church. Twenty-eight of the church lots are fenced; 56 have good shade trees. In general the grounds of the country churches receive poor care; lawns not well kept; grass and weeds around the church uncut; trees untrimmed; whole appearance rather unkempt. The town and village churches, for the most part, fare better. Thirty-one churches have cemeteries adjoining them. Twenty-nine have parsonages.

### (d) The Working Force

There are 44 ministers working regularly in the county, of whom 39 are Protestant and 5 Catholic. There are three churches, Friend and Christian Science, which do not have regular paid ministers; eight other churches are at the present time pastorless. The 39 Protestant ministers are in charge of 75 churches. Fifteen are able to devote their entire time to single churches; 13 have two churches each; 3 have three churches; 7 have four churches; 1 has five. Several have churches in adjoining counties. Here we see the remnants of the old system of farming out churches on circuits, which has always constituted the great weakness of the country church. The circuit system means the lessening of the efficiency of the church as a working force. Here the conditions are better than in the majority of country communities, but they are still far from ideal. He is an optimist indeed who hopes that the consolidated church will come with the consolidated school; yet this would undoubtedly be the solution of many of the churches' most urgent problems.

Nineteen of the Protestant ministers live in towns, while twenty live in small villages or the open country. All but ten live within the limits of their respective parishes. But the man who has from two to five churches has a large parish. Some of his churches must be without a *resident* minister. In point of fact, 26 of the 75 churches over which these men have charge have resident pastors, and 49 are without a *resident* minister. Of course it will be said that many of these churches are quite unable to support a minister on full time, which is quite true. But again the answer is the same. Some sort of consolidation is necessary before the church will be able to give the best service to the country community.

### (e) The Church's Service to the Community

(1) As a preaching centre: fifty churches have preaching service every Sunday; 41 have service every other Sunday; 4 have service every fourth Sunday. That is to say, this is the arrangement when they have service. At the present time, there are 7 churches which have no service and several others in which the service is not regular.

The average aggregate attendance at the Protestant Churches for a single service is about 7,200. On any given Sunday there are present in all the churches holding service on that day an average of 4,400 people, or 13.4% of the entire population. Each Sunday sees 22% of the Protestant population in the churches. While there is probably only a small percent. of the population who do not attend church at all, there is a comparatively large percent. who will not attend regularly. This would vary somewhat in the different districts; it would be small in Olney and Damascus, and large in Laytonsville, Clarksburg and Potomac. About 38% of the normal church congregation are men.

(2) As an organized force: one of the most important forms of the church's service to the community is that which it renders through its organizations. Diagram No. VII indicates the equipment of the Protestant churches in this respect. All but ten of the churches, it will be noticed, have Sunday-schools; 53 have women's organizations of some sort; 37 have Young People's organizations; five have organizations for men. Twenty-six out of 86 churches have no organizations except a Sunday-school. First let us consider the Sunday-schools.

Seventy-seven is the total number of Protestant Sunday-schools in the county. Fifty-eight of these are in session throughout the year; the remainder suspend operations for three months or more of each year. The Sunday-school like the public day school has education for its object.

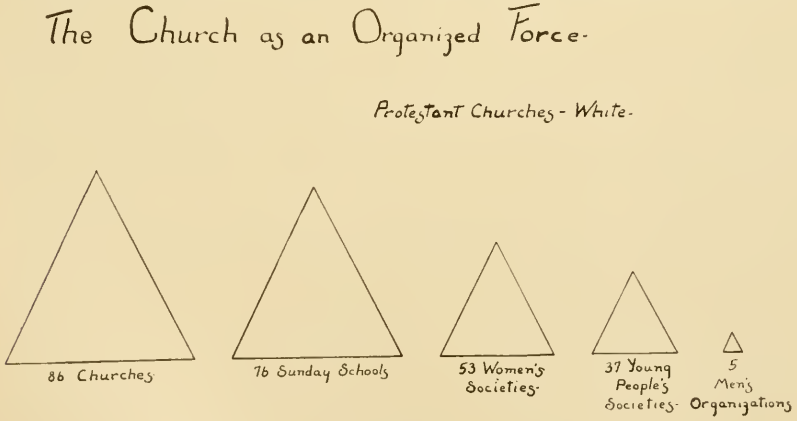



DIAGRAM NO. VII

It differs from the latter only in its function, which is to teach religion and morality. We have a right to expect the Sunday-school to perform its special function as efficiently as the day school performs its own. A comparison of the two at several points is interesting.

The total membership of all Sunday-schools is 5,537, an average of 72 to the school. Of this number approximately 3,600 are between the ages of 5 and 20. The total white Protestant population between these ages is about 6,750: 51% of this number are enrolled in the public schools, 46% in the Sunday-schools. The day schools, moreover, show a better average attendance. The regular attendance here represents 35% of the total number of school age and 67.3% of the enrollment. The attendance upon the Sunday-schools represents only 53.8% of the enrollment and 28.7% of the total. The total average attendance per Sunday is 3,360, 43.5 per school.

The 77 schools have 521 teachers (173 males and 348 females), about seven teachers per school, and one teacher for every 10 pupils enrolled. The public schools have 128 teachers (27 males and 101 females), one to every 30 pupils. In the smaller class groups, other things equal, it ought to be easier to hold the pupils and the Sunday-schools by this token should show at least as high a proportionate attendance as the public schools. At least a part of the explanation of this may be that only five Sunday-schools in the county are making any attempt whatsoever to train their teachers, that there are almost no organized departments or classes, and that not a half-dozen schools are using graded lessons. The teachers are conscientious Christian men and women who are giving the best service of which they are capable. But before the Sunday-school can hold its own as an *educational* institution these men and women must also be given some special training. The art of teaching may itself be taught. It has been said that the minister might better take the farmer from his plow and put him in the pulpit than give him charge over a Sunday-school class without some special training. In the former event, he would not be dealing with such plastic and impressionable material. The Sunday-school is the strategic point in the church's field of work but it is not receiving by any means the careful attention that it should receive. It is quite as important to train the teachers of the young as the preachers to the old.

Other organizations: there are 38 young people's organizations with a total membership of 1,381. These societies meet for the most part weekly. Forty-nine churches are without any form of organization for their young people. Women's societies number 68 with a membership of 1,525. These are chiefly of two sorts, Ladies' Aid Societies and Mission Study Societies. Thirty-three churches are without any women's organizations. But very little effort has been made to organize

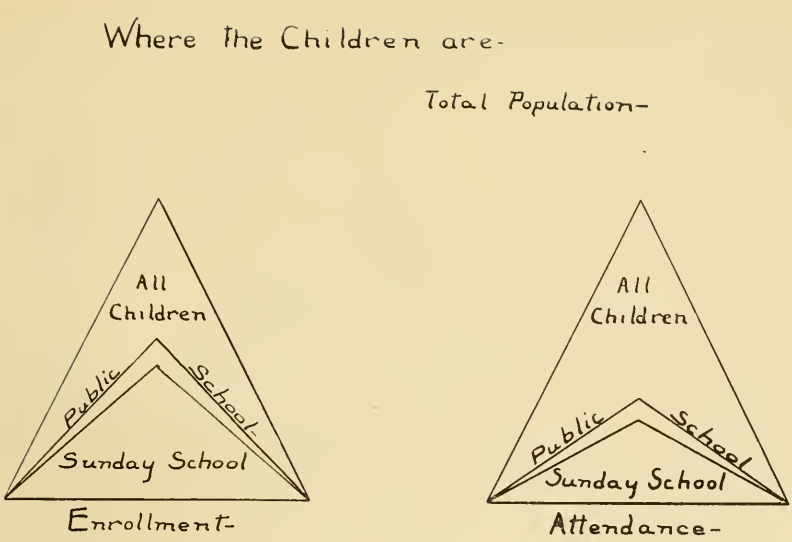



DIAGRAM NO. VIII

the men in the churches. There are 5 men's organizations with a membership of 82. Eighty-one churches have no organizations for their men. There are also 5 other organizations with a membership of 127. The total number of organizations of all sorts is 116, and the total membership is 3,302. Twenty-six churches have no organizations except the Sunday-school while 20 have none of any kind.

It is a matter of surprise, in view of the usual method of conducting the church finances, that there are thirty-three churches which are able to survive without a woman's society to raise money. And in fact few of the 33 are really flourishing financially. The really weak point, however, is the absence of any organized effort to get and hold the young people and the men. The church is here neglecting not only an effective method of religious work but also an opportunity to teach men the needed lesson of coöperation in all their affairs by helping them to practice it in their church life.

(3) *As a Social Centre:* Unfortunately there is but little to be said under this caption and it is one of those topics in connection with which a lack of material is in itself the gravest indictment. The truth of the matter is that the church as a whole is making but very little effort to serve the community as a social centre. Not even the church feels itself obligated to furnish recreation and social-life facilities for their own sake. The greater part of the church's social activities are undertaken for the sake of the money to be raised by them. We have spoken before of the festive Strawberry and the Oyster, first aids to the budget. When their ministrations have been mentioned and the annual picnic,

ONE OF THE BEST CHURCHES IN THE COUNTY

which we discussed in another connection, recalled, our list is nearly exhausted. Not 15% of the churches have any other sort of social activity. Of course churches vary, but in general their social life is at rather a low ebb.

### (f) The Community's Service to the Church

The aggregate annual budget for all Protestant churches is $88,519. Thirty-five and three-tenths cents of each dollar of the church's money is for the minister's salary. The total amount expended in salaries per year is $31,247, and the average per minister is $842, the maximum being $1,500 and the minimum $250. Each church expends an average of $381 on its minister (for 25 churches in two denominations with 15 ministers the average is much higher; these two denominations pay an average salary of $1,050: each church having as its average expenditure $625). Very few of the ministers have any source of income other than their salaries. Twenty-nine are furnished with parsonages.

Twenty-four cents of each dollar is contributed toward the various benevolences of the church, practically all of it going to the established Boards of the different denominations. Only two churches have any *system* of local benevolences. Three and three-tenths cents is the cost of maintaining the Sunday-schools, while the remaining 37.4 cents is re-

quired for the up-keep of the church property and other running expenses. The average for benevolences per church is $259, for Sunday-school $36 and for other expenses $404. The average total annual budget per church is $1,080. It has usually been concluded that the greater part of the expenditures of the Country Churches is for the perpetuation of their own denominational institutions. This in itself is of course a very important form of service to society. There is, however, little attempt to serve communities in any broad sense outside of denominational limits and independent of denominational agencies.

The 76 white schools with their total enrollment of 3,927 cost the county nearly $100,000 for a year. Eighty-six white churches with a total membership of 6,994 cost $88,500. Figuring on the basis of the direct expenditure plus the interest on the amount invested in property, as a rent equivalent, every day a school is actually opened for school purposes the average cost is $8.00. Every day a church is actually in use the average cost is $20.90. If the total cost of maintaining the churches were equally distributed among all the members, and if the Oyster and the Strawberry did not coöperate in raising the money, the annual cost to each member would be $12.66.

Two churches in the county are endowed, sharing between them the income from $74,830.

A RECTORY IN THE OPEN COUNTRY

### (g) The Church's Program

*To Whom It Ministers.* The gravest criticism which we can make of those churches of the county which minister to the farming population, a criticism which we are repeatedly compelled to make, is that their service is not a community service but a class service. The pastors of 38 such churches replied to the question, "What proportion of the adult male members of your congregation are farm owners; what proportion are tenants?" One fourth replied that there were practically no tenants in their churches. Thirty churches reported from 85 to 100% owners; 6 reported from 50 to 85% owners; 2 reported as many tenants as owners. Moreover, these churches seemed satisfied that this should be the case; that in only one out of every five churches should the proportion of tenants to owners be as high as the proportion to the entire number of farm operators in the county. Just why the church does not reach the tenant farmer is a question difficult to answer. He is a less stable element of the population than the owner; his term of occupancy is relatively short; moreover, in this county, he is usually less prosperous, the conditions of his life are harder and there is a smaller amount of *surplus* energy to be turned into religious activity. Nevertheless it is exceedingly unfortunate that a fourth of the farming population should be so largely eliminated from the church's program.

*How It Ministers.* In the discussion of the Sunday-schools, attention was called to the fact that the architecture of most of the churches is such that they are very poorly adapted for Sunday-schools and similar branches of church work. The churches have been planned and built as auditoriums in which sermons may be delivered. This is because the emphasis of the religion which established them has been and still is so largely individual. The mission of the church has not been conceived as a social mission. This remains the great reason why these churches have been so slow in assuming their rightful places as the centres of community life.

A GOOD PARSON

## THE COLORED CHURCHES

### (a) Distribution

The Colored Churches are not so evenly distributed throughout the county as are the white churches for the reason that the colored population

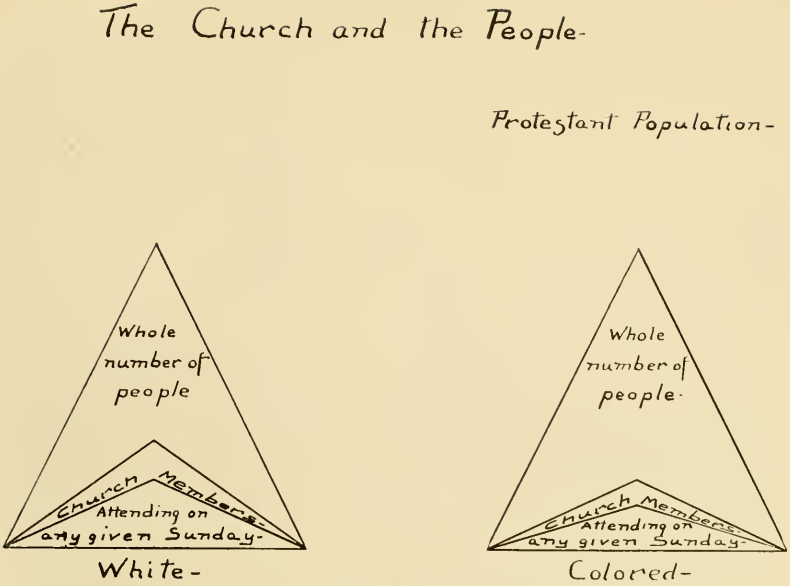



DIAGRAM NO. IX

itself is not so evenly distributed. The churches of course follow the distribution of the population and most of them are in or near colored settlements. There are 40 churches in all, one to every 231of the colored population.

### (b) Denominational Classification, Membership and Growth

There are three denominations at work in the county, Baptist, M. E. and A. M. E. Zion (Table No. 25, Appendix, page VII). The M. E. Denomination has more than half of the churches. The total membership of all churches is 1,981, only 21.2% of the population. The average membership is 49.5. That is to say each church is reaching hardly more than a fourth of its possible following.

At almost every point the colored churches are much more inefficient than the white churches. Not only have they a smaller proportion of their population enrolled in the churches but their efforts at progress are in comparison feeble. In 1906 the approximate membership of all colored churches was 1,786. In six years there has been a net increase of 195 or 10.8% as against 28.2% for the white churches. During the last church year the total number of additions was 153, of which one denomination had 147. This was a gross increase for the year of 8.3%. Only 15 of the 40 churches are growing at the present time; 10 are stationary; 10 are steadily losing ground, while 5 are unmistakably dying. These churches all cling to life with a remarkably tenacious grip. They almost never make an end of dying; yet very few of them have anything like robust health.

ONE OF THE BEST COLORED CHURCHES IN THE COUNTY

### (c) The Equipment for Service

There are 37 church buildings valued at $37,260, the average value being about $1,000. Thirty-two of these are one-room. Perhaps a fourth of them are in reasonably good condition; the remainder are in various stages of delapidation and decay. Several buildings, notably the M. E. and the A. M. E. in Rockville are brick structures, better than many of the white churches. All these churches, even more than those we have already discussed, are adapted for the preaching service only. Not one of them is really convenient for the Sunday-schools.

### (d) The Working Force

There are 18 ministers in charge of 38 churches. Two churches are at present pastorless. Six of these men have each a single church; 7 have two churches, 2 three churches and 3 four churches each. On the face of it this seems like a fair record, but it looks better than it is, for with two possible exceptions the churches which have a man on full time are in a poorer condition than many of those on circuits. Six of the ministers live in towns; 12 live in the country or in villages. All but 3 live within their parishes. A number of these men are exceptionally able and well-equipped men who are rendering valuable service.

### (e) The Church's Service to the Community

As a preaching centre: 12 of the 40 churches have a service every Sunday; 24 have 2 services a month; 4 have one service a month. The total attendance in all churches holding service on an average Sunday is a little more than a thousand.

As an organized force: 38 of the churches have Sunday-schools, of which 28 are in session through the year; ten are in session from 6 to 9 months. The total membership of these schools is 1,402, and the total average attendance is 991. This is an average membership and attendance per school of 37 and 26 respectively. There are in all 164 teachers, one to every 6 pupils in regular attendance.

There are 15 Young People's organizations with a membership of 418, 7 women's societies with a membership of 370, 3 organizations for men with a membership of 33 and 2 other organizations with a membership of 75. This makes a total of 37 organizations with an aggregate membership of 896. Twenty-five churches have no organization for Young People, 43 have none for women, 38 have none for men. Eighteen have no organizations at all except the Sunday-school.

*As a Social Centre.* The colored church appears to occupy a larger place socially in the lives of its members than does the white church. The great majority of the churches have some regular social feature. The relation between the church, the school and the lodge is usually a close one; close as their respective buildings which are frequently built upon the same lot. Most of the entertainments held have the same financial significance as in the white churches; but their social significance is also great.

### (f) The Community's Service to the Church

The annual budgets of the churches total $10,867, an average of about $272 per church. Of this amount, $6,560 is for salaries. The average salary is $364.45; the maximum is $748 and the minimum $50. If the total expenditure were equally distributed among the members it would amount to $5.48 per year. The annual expenditure on the colored schools is $11,393.62. Figuring in the same

AN HUMBLE COLORED CHURCH

manner as with the budgets of the white churches and schools, the colored schools cost $2.86 each per day in use and the colored churches, $5.54.

## RELIGIOUS STATUS

In its general religious status Montgomery County is above the average. Church facilities are more than ample. On the side of the people it should be said that they support their churches generously. While only about a third of the population are on the church rolls as members, there is little or no antagonism to religion or to the church. The churches are sympathetically regarded.

The church as an institution enjoys better than ordinarily good health. There is, however, as yet no large vision of a social ministry for the church. There is very slight contact with the practical daily problems of the people and very little attempt to serve them aside from the usual churchly ministrations. Denominational lines are still closely maintained, in many instances to the decided detriment both of church and people.

To the candid observer it would seem that the religious life of the county lacks virility. It is one thing to be sympathetic toward the church and quite another thing to be aggressively religious in every day life. It is in this lack of definite contact between religion and life that Montgomery County is weakest. This can be remedied best by the reconstruction of church work along such lines that the churches which are not needed shall be eliminated and the churches that remain made definite community centers, aiming to serve their people in everything that effects their prosperity and well-being.

The chart "Facing the Church Problem" (opposite page) calls attention to certain elements in this condition. The church is here shown to be weakest at the very point at which society is weakest. It is obvious that there is a great field here in which the church may work. It has a logical place to fill in the lives of these communities. It is equally obvious that the force is potentially adequate to the task, but the churches lack the machinery for their greatest work and they lack also the motive and vision.

## SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

By the Hon. Willet M. Hays

Assistant Secretary, United States Department of Agriculture

Montgomery County, though one of our oldest counties, needs development along economic lines. The very commendable movement for the improvement of its several hundred miles of dirt road and the macadamizing of its leading roads should be encouraged by everybody. It needs

# FACING THE CHURCH PROBLEM

## THE FIELD

13,146 people *not* in the churches.

6 out of 13 districts *without* adequate social organization for *any* class.

13 out of 13 districts *without* adequate social organization for the *tenant* and *laboring* classes.

## THE FORCE

86 churches—1 to every 233 of the total white Protestant population.

## THE FACTS

28% of the churches are *not* growing.

29% have *no* organizations of *any* sort (except S. S.)

57% have *no* organizations for young people.

94% have *no* organizations for men.

85% are making *no* effort to serve their communities as *social centres*.

DIAGRAM NO. X.

more trolley lines extending out from Washington, one between the B. & O. Railway and the river, and more than one in the eastern and northern parts of the county.

Some areas of good soil now slowly producing crops of timber should be converted into arable fields while some abandoned hillsides should be reforested. The acreage of apples and other orchard trees should be much, yet conservatively, extended. In many places rich bottom lands and seepy hillsides should be tile drained. The farms should in many cases be somewhat reorganized so as to have rotation fields in definite four, five, and six year cropping series. More attention should be paid to securing the best available varieties of corn, wheat, apples, and other crops and to making improvements through seed selection. Cow testing associations, coöperative breeding of cattle, horses, sheep and swine should be developed and the up-grading of live stock of the county should be attended to with more intelligence and greater care. The systems in vogue in the best orchard regions, in cultivating, fertilizing and spraying the orchards, most of which are yet new, should be energetically introduced.

The farmers of the entire county should follow the example of the farmers in the region of Olney and Sandy Spring, by organizing farmers' clubs and granges in the different parts of the county, also a district country life league in each district and a county federation with representatives from the various farmers' organizations should be established to consider the interests of the open country of the entire county.

Under the leadership of the farmers the start at consolidating the rural schools, as at Sandy Spring, Brookeville and other places, with a teacher of agriculture and a teacher of home economics should be extended to the entire county. Fifteen or twenty consolidated rural school centres would provide vital centres for farmers' social and economic organizations as well as for high schools which teach farming and home making. Such instruction in agriculture as that now provided in the Sandy Spring and Brookeville schools, if extended to the entire county, would rapidly educate the young generation to make more of the farms and farm homes of the entire county. If all the county could be made as productive as are the farms in the vicinity of Sandy Spring and Brookeville, the total production of the county would be greatly increased and a more splendid country life developed. The plan of having a county farm bureau with an expert farm demonstrator and advisor, which is now so rapidly extending into the counties of the United States, will be of great benefit to Montgomery County. Such an office would be of assistance in bringing about better rotation of crops, the more intelligent use of fertilizers, the improvement of live stock, the choice of

better varieties of field crops and other plants, and in better methods of cultivation and farm management generally.

A County Y. M. C. A. Secretary, such as the International Committee is placing in many counties throughout the United States would be a great aid in assisting the boys and young men of the county. Such an officer could help not only in preparing the young people for their church life but also in developing the recreational and social life of the entire county, and would greatly reflect on production by leading to better farming.

Many more of the farm youths of the county should attend agricultural colleges, mainly to return and be the leading farmers, but in part to return and help to build up a system of local and agricultural high schools and country life educational, social, and economic organizations for the entire county. Likewise many more farm girls should attend schools which prepare girls for the farm home, for teaching home making in the consolidated rural school, and for leadership in the rural community. The splendid blood of the white population of Montgomery County, its good soil and its superb market facilities present possibilities for a wonderful country life community. If the entire county could be so improved as to average as well as the best communities in the eastern part of the county, the claim could be made that Montgomery County is fast becoming the model country life county of the United States. The City of Washington and the governments of the state and of the nation can well afford to encourage both the suburban and rural parts of Montgomery County to become models as places for family homes for that portion of the people with best heredity, who, by multiplying more rapidly than the average can dominate the blood of the future nation. Montgomery County will continue to be proud of the strong people it sends into the city because upon its farms will continue to remain a portion of the best blood of America. Its splendid home and social life are the best agencies for building up its system of economic production. But the homes need to be better supplemented by the consolidated and rural high schools, by more clubs, granges, and farmers district leagues, welded into a county federation by a county Y. M. C. A., a county Y. W. C. A., and a bureau of county farm experts. The opportunities for doing team work and securing national and state recognition and help in building up the farms, the homes and country life generally, are not excelled by any county in the country. Montgomery county, like every other county must double its product, because double the nation's population must be fed, and the above suggestions have a large relation to how to bring this about.

# RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

By Mr. A. C. Monahan

Assistant in Rural Education, United States Bureau of Education

## Organization and Supervision

The management of the schools of Montgomery County, as in all Maryland counties is centralized in the hands of one board of education. Such a system is known as the "county system" of organization and is probably the most efficient and economical of all systems for rural schools in the United States. Only four other States are so organized. Under this system is provided the best opportunities to promote the educational interests of the entire county. Under no other form of organization has such rapid development taken place in rural school affairs, except under the township organization as found in New England and in a few other States. The township system, however, has proven especially efficient only in thickly settled sections. Any system to be effective must have at the head of its school affairs a board of education composed of capable persons who will perform their duties for the best interests of the schools and the communities regardless of the demands of political party affiliations. The Montgomery County board is unquestionably composed of capable men and in the management of school affairs it seems to be free from political influence.

The school system of the county is weak in the amount of supervision given the teacher in her work both in managing the school and in teaching. Expert supervision is given by but one person—the county superintendent—and he must divide his time between work as an agent of the county board in the management of the school affairs of the county and as a supervisor of the teachers and their work. The county includes approximately 521 square miles of territory with 106 separate school buildings distributed quite evenly over the entire county. There are 162 teachers. Under such conditions little personal supervision is possible. The school year is approximately 180 days in length, the school being in session 5½ hours per day, or a total of 990 hours in the entire year. If the county superintendent could spend this entire 990 hours in the schools while classes were reciting, he could give but 9 hours to each building during the entire year and but 6 hours to each teacher. In actual practice he cannot probably devote more than one-half of his time to visiting schools and part of this time is consumed in driving from one school to another.

Contrast this condition with the amount of supervision in the city of Baltimore. In 1910, there were 58 supervisory officers devoting half

A VILLAGE HIGH SCHOOL

or more than half of their time to supervising the work of the 1,778 teachers employed. And the city was criticised in "The Report of the Commission Appointed to Study the System of Education in the Public Schools of Baltimore" because the supervision was considered by the experts who made the study, *inadequate in amount!* Baltimore had but one such supervisor for every 32 teachers while the average for the 18 largest cities in the United States that year was 1 for every 19 teachers. It is on account of this supervision in city systems that the great progress has been made in city schools, and for the lack of it that the country schools have failed to keep pace. In every business enterprise but public education it is recognized that to obtain the best results supervision from bottom to top is essential.

With the present number and distribution of schools Montgomery County should employ at least 3 assistant superintendents who would devote their entire time to supervising the work of the teachers. This would give 1 to every 35 schools, or 1 to every 54 teachers. The amount of supervision would still be inadequate but would be a vast improvement over the present amount. These assistants should be under the direct authority of the county superintendent. Each should be assigned a definite part of the county so that they would come to know their schools and their patrons, and could acquire close, definite information relative

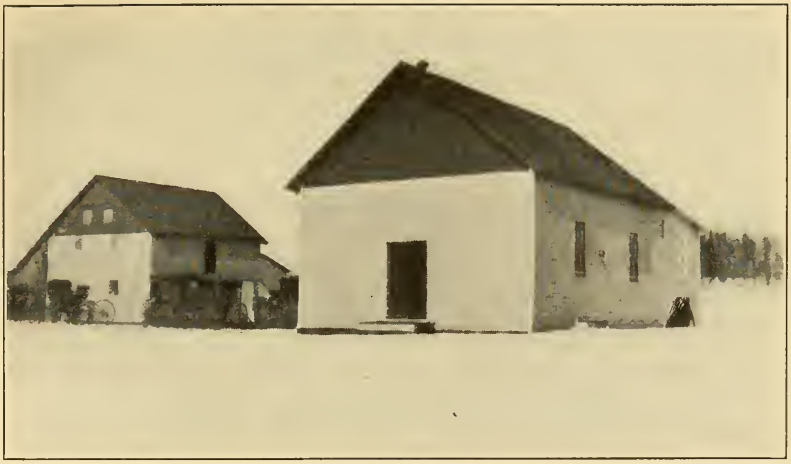
to their district not only as regards educational affairs, but all interests of the community. It is only when in possession of such knowledge that it is possible for the supervisors to so direct the schools and their work that they would fill more nearly the place which the country schools should occupy in their communities.

### The Course of Study

The curriculum of the schools of Montgomery County includes little but the common branches which have been taught in country and city schools for the past decade. A readjustment is desirable so that the studies pursued would be more closely correlated with the life and interests of the community. More time and attention should be given to instruction in elementary agriculture, domestic science, manual training, music and drawing, and the common branches should be taught in terms of these subjects. It is realized, of course, that the ordinary country teacher herself can not do much to bring about this readjustment on account of lack of training and lack of information relative to how the readjustment may be effected. The county superintendent alone, with the manifold duties thrust upon him, can do but little. Such readjustment and redirection of the work of the schools can be accomplished satisfactorily only by a county superintendent assisted by several supervising officers working under his authority and direction who can direct and aid the teachers in the introduction of work in these newer subjects and in establishing the proper balance and relationship between them and the older subjects. The problem is greater than the mere addition of new studies to the curriculum. Under present conditions the average teacher in the one-teacher country school conducts about 26 recitations per day of approximately 12 minutes in length. There is no time for additional classes. The newer subjects must be taught by means of and through other subjects already in the curriculum in place of useless portions now included. Such being the case, the necessity of expert supervision is made all the greater.

### Number of Schools

The number of schools contained in the county from the standpoint of efficiency and economy is too great. There are 69 elementary schools for white children or one for every 7½ square miles of territory. This means that if the schools were symmetrically distributed no part of the county would be more than 2 miles from a school, 90% of the territory would be within 1½ miles and 42% within 1 mile. If the number of schools for white children should be decreased to 35, there would be one school for every 15 square miles. If the schools should be located at the centre of squares 15 square miles in area, or less than 4 miles on a side,



DOMESTIC SCIENCE LABORATORY OF THE BROOKEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

one-fifth of the territory would be within 1 mile of the school, four-fifths within 2 miles, and the furthest point would be but 2.8 miles from the building. By a proper arrangement taking into consideration the geographical features of the country and the location of the population, the 35 schools could be so placed that approximately 95% of the school children would live within 2 miles of a school and at least 60% within 1 mile. Under such conditions transportation at public expense would be necessary only on exceptional days, as the children would be within walking distance. While it might not be possible to extend the area for each school to 15 square miles, there are many sections where consolidation with transportation of pupils at public expense is entirely practicable and where the school might serve an area of 25 square miles.

Decreasing the number of schools would not lessen the number of teachers in the county to any great extent as the number of pupils to each teacher under present conditions is high. It would, however, increase the size of each school to two or three teacher schools with enough pupils to permit a classification in such a way that the efficiency of the teaching would be doubled or trebled. It would allow also adequate expert supervision at a comparatively small cost and would decrease the cost of maintenance appreciably. It would mean a much more efficient school service at about the present outlay.

On the whole the white schools of Montgomery County may be said to rank high in the excellency of their work in comparison with other county systems. The same may be said about the negro schools, although they are relatively inefficient as compared to the white schools of the county, and are poorly housed, equipped, and supported. It is

probably true that the county is expending upon the negro schools an amount as great as is paid by the negro population in direct taxes. It is becoming a recognized principle of economy however, that the responsibility of a city, county, or state to its people or to any part of them for the best interests of all the people in the political unit can not be measured in terms of the direct taxes paid.

The criticism made relative to the lack on supervision and to the overabundance of small schools would apply equally as well to the larger number of counties in the majority of states in the Union. From the 2,000 inquiries made during the recent survey of the county a general appreciation of these two needs seems to exist.

## GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

In closing this survey of Montgomery County it is fitting that we state, in a few strong paragraphs, what are the main needs of the county as a whole. It is not a needy county, as compared with others. Its resources are many; and its situation so near to a market—so near also to one of the great capitals of intellectual life in the world, the city of Washington, puts the county in a favored relation to many others throughout the country. But it is a very representative county for all that. The weaknesses which rob the American farmer of his best inheritance are all here. The new order of rural life has not come, to most of the county. A rural civilization is not there so strong as to resist that of the city.

First, there is need of organized coöperation among farmers. The business of the farmer is done too much by the city man, or by business men who thrive on the farmers' inattention to their own affairs. There should be coöperative banks or trust companies at which a farmer might borrow money at less than four per cent. These will come only when farmers organize on the coöperative principle, for the purpose of placing their own security on the market. Capital is willing to go into the country at three and a half per-cent. but the farmer must handle his own banking, in order to secure for himself and other farmers this advantage. The Reiffeissen Bank system is commended for study by farmers, as a good model of the farmers' bank.

When such low rates of interest are secured, as the security offered in farm land will justify, then the farmer's son will be able to buy a farm in the county, and the community will not lose its own best blood, by reason of the impossibility of buying farms.

The same principle applies to the manufacture of farm products. This should be in the hands of farmers. Milk should in every community be made into butter, so far as is of advantage. The remainder should be sold to the city buyers. This can only be done by combinations of

farmers. The coöperative principle is the right one for this purpose. Farmers do not work well together in joint stock companies, but they do coöperate well, in associations in which the votes are man-votes, not share-votes. The farmers of the county ought to undertake with thoroughness the study of coöperation, and, not content with anything less than economic combination, they ought to organize in the vital processes by which they get their living. Only thus can they keep their income high enough to be satisfactory. And if it is not satisfactory, the country will lose and the city will gain, to the advantage of no one.

Second, the negroes of the county are the least satisfactory section of the population. It may be assumed that they will be a permanent part of the county's people, for decades to come. The trouble seems to be that the negroes are not able to "go it alone." They are in need of the collective attention of the white people of the county. Their schools should be reconstructed, on the principle of teaching them to work. Better buildings and adequate equipment should be provided for this purpose. A clear determination of the authorities of the county to use the schools for industrial training of the negro children would advance the whole problem a long way.

The state of the negroes has a very direct effect upon the economic and on the moral welfare of the whites. In planning therefore, for the prosperity and for the general good of the county, the people of the county ought to devote energetic attention to the industrial betterment of the Negro. He may be compared to a man morally and economically sick. The hospital for his disease is a school where he will learn in early years to work. It pays to put money into such a hospital.

Our third recommendation is as to the churches. It is to the effect that there are churches enough. The county is more than adequately churched. Let us not rejoice at the organization of any more, but rather let us turn to the improvement and furnishing of these we have. The Survey shows that they are very inadequately equipped for their work. They need Sunday-school rooms, a class-room for each great division of the members of the congregation, who may be taught, and need to be taught, the message and the truths of the Bible. The one-cell church should be built into a beehive of religious work. Not only preaching, but teaching and social meeting and dinners and Farmers' Clubs, and Organized Bible Classes have need of a place in the church, that they can call their own. Every interest of the community, indeed, ought to have a welcome in the church building, that it may there be tested and discussed in the spirit of the Master, and shaped to be a part of his Kingdom.

Especially is there need of a policy of recreation among the churches, that is larger than the present petty chaffering of sales and suppers, for the funds of the Ladies' Societies. The women of the churches are doing well, against all opposition, but they have little except opposition from the men of the churches.

Two motives impel the churches to take a hand in the recreation of the community. It will help in solving the labor problem. For the farm laborer goes to the city too often simply because he has no social enjoyment in the country. Moreover, it will do more to solve the problem of rural morality than any other measure that can be taken. The godly people of the community see this for their own children. They take charge of their play, in order to control their moral training. They would find that all the children of the community will respond in the same way. Supervised and well provided recreation will do more for training the citizens of the future than any other effort or expenditure.

Our fourth and final recommendation has to do with community organization. Attention has been called to the over-multiplication of schools and churches, a condition which offends against both economy and efficiency. In general the survey has made it abundantly clear that in almost every community in the county there is a distinct lack of concentration of interests and activities. With one exception there is no community in the county which has developed for itself any very extensive opportunities of concerted action. A community should possess individuality, a sense of its own unity. At almost every point country life is too diffuse. Its energies are scattered and consequently fail of their most advantageous use. In the finest meaning of the term a community is not a casual association of a number of people about a school

and a church and a store and a home and a public road. It is a unified group building for itself these various institutions in the spirit and practice of coöperation.

In this county the country communities are not individual; they are distinctly dividual. They come apart into well-defined sections, corresponding to their various activities. There are unfortunate and artificial divisions between educational, religious, commercial and social activities, and between parts or strata of the same neighborhoods. In fact, they are hardly communities at all—they are voting districts.

If a map could be made locating every church, school and store with a line drawn from each home to the particular church, school and store with which it had connection, this lack of centralization would be very clear. A condition would be depicted which could best be described as "scrambled." In a community so organized there is constant duplication of effort along many lines and the resultant waste is very great. Prosperity in greatest measure will only come to these communities when each effort of the scientific farmer to make many grains of wheat grow where but one grew before is supplemented by the effort of the scientific community builder to make but one store, church or school grow where many grew before.

Our proposal is a definite one. We will state it as a theory, conscious that local conditions will necessitate modification at various points when applied to a particular community. Montgomery County would divide itself naturally into from twenty to twenty-five communities within which all the people could easily be grouped about some common centre. There would then be no family in the county more than a few miles from one such point. Here all neighborhood activities should centre. Here there would be a community church, a community consolidated school, a community store and all needed community enterprises. In coming years farmers will inevitably adopt the principle of coöperation in their banking and farm business. The value of this is becoming continually clearer. There should be a common point in each community for the carrying on of such community efforts. The social and the recreational life will also centre here. If such a diagram as we mentioned above were then made, the result would look less like a dish of spaghetti and more like a circle with its radii leading from every home to the common center.

The effect of this plan of organization upon the working efficiency of the community could not help but be tremendous. There would be a gain in social solidarity, in compactness and simplicity of social machinery and in directness and definiteness of effort.

This is not an impossible ideal. In this very county there is one community which has developed this form of organization beyond the experimental stage.

# APPENDIX

## TABLE NO. 1.—HOW THE TOTAL VALUE OF FARM PROPERTY IS DISTRIBUTED

| | |
|---|---|
| Land | $12,678,278 |
| Land in 1900 | 9,491,930 |
| Buildings | 5,163,580 |
| Buildings in 1900 | 3,525,170 |
| Implements and machinery | 733,843 |
| Implements and machinery in 1900 | 576,010 |
| Domestic animals, poultry, etc | 2,282,768 |
| Domestic animals, poultry, etc., in 1900 | 1,486,558 |
| PER CENT. OF VALUE OF ALL PROPERTY IN: | |
| Land | 60.8 |
| Buildings | 24.8 |
| Implements and machinery | 3.5 |
| Domestic animals, poultry, etc | 10.9 |
| AVERAGE VALUES (Number of all farms, 2,442): | |
| All property per farm | $8,542 |
| Land and buildings per farm | 7,306 |
| Equipment and stock | 1,236 |

## TABLE NO. 2.—HOW THE LAND IS HELD. SIZE OF FARMS

| Size of Farms | Per Cent. of All Farms Operated by White Farmers | Per Cent. of All Farms Operated by Colored Farmers |
|---|---|---|
| 19 acres or less | 17.67% | 69.3% |
| 20–49 acres | 13.4% | 16.0% |
| 50–99 " | 18.2% | 6.6% |
| 100–174 " | 24.46% | 5.4% |
| 175–259 " | 13.23% | 1.7% |
| 260–499 " | 11.61% | .9% |
| 500–999 " | 1.33% | 0.0% |

## TABLE NO. 3.—HOW THE LAND IS HELD. KIND OF TENURE

| | Per Cent. of All Farms Operated by White | Colored |
|---|---|---|
| Owners | 68.7% | 71.3% |
| Owner and tenant | .1% | .6% |
| Part owner | 5.8% | 7.4% |
| Tenants | 21.7% | 19.4% |
| Unclassified | 3.7% | 1.3% |

## TABLE NO. 4.—THE AGE OF FARMERS

| Age | Per Cent. of Total Number White Farmers | Per Cent. of Total Number Colored Farmers |
|---|---|---|
| 24 years and less | 3.2% | .6% |
| 25–34 years | 15.8% | 11.5% |
| 35–44 years | 24.3% | 16.1% |
| 45–54 years | 23.6% | 26.2% |
| 55–64 years | 18.8% | 24.7% |
| 65 years and over | 13.6% | 21.5% |

## TABLE NO. 5.—VALUE OF LIVE STOCK ON THE FARMS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cattle: | | |
| Total number | | 17,872 |
| Dairy cows | 10,322 | |
| Other cows | 1,014 | |
| Value | | $573,188 |
| Horses | | 10,830 |
| Value | | $1,379,313 |
| Mules | | 268 |
| Value | | $32,291 |
| Swine | | 16,633 |
| Value | | $119,331 |
| Sheep | | 11,529 |
| Value | | $55,316 |
| The holdings in poultry and bees were reported as follows: | | |
| Number of poultry of all kinds | | 172,321 |
| Value | | $112,901 |
| Number of colonies of bees | | 1,865 |
| Value | | $6,349 |

## TABLE NO. 6.—YIELD AND ACREAGE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS

| Crop | Acres | Yield | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Corn | 39,278 | 1,380,249 | bushels |
| Oats | 1,169 | 22,276 | " |
| Wheat | 45,112 | 769,289 | " |
| Rye | 3,549 | 40,661 | " |
| Potatoes | 2,398 | 193,783 | " |
| Tobacco | 587 | 534,314 | lbs. |
| Hay and forage | 25,906 | 30,094 | tons |

## TABLE NO. 7.—FARM EXPENSES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Labor | Farms reporting | 1,707 |
| | Cash expended | $476,863 |
| | Rent and board furnished | 175,632 |
| Feed | Farms reporting | 1,169 |
| | Amount expended | $159,082 |
| Fertilizer | Farms reporting | 1,781 |
| | Amount expended | $221,306 |

## TABLE NO. 8.—DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC ROADS

| District | Macadamized and Ordinary Pikes | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | State Built | County Built | Turnpikes Toll-road | Total Stone | Dirt | Grand Total |
| Laytonsville | 3.80 | .435 | .... | 4.235 | 56.55 | 60.55 |
| Olney | 1.295 | 1.83 | 9.75 | 12.875 | 61.875 | 74.75 |
| Damascus | .... | .... | .... | .... | 60.50 | 60.50 |
| Clarksburg | 4.875 | .33 | .... | 5.205 | 65.795 | 71.00 |
| Gaithersburg | .735 | 2.435 | .... | 3.17 | 51.29 | 58.58 |
| Darnestown | 3.00 | .... | .... | 3.00 | 59.25 | 62.25 |
| Barnesville | .... | 4.59 | .... | 4.59 | 57.45 | 62.00 |
| Poolesville | .... | 2.45 | .... | 2.45 | 76.30 | 78.75 |
| Rockville | 4.67 | 7.65 | .... | 12.32 | 50.43 | 62.75 |
| Potomac | .... | 4.50 | .... | 4.50 | 44.75 | 49.25 |
| Bethesda | .... | 12.57 | .... | 12.57 | 37.18 | 49.75 |
| Colesville | .... | 8.50 | .375 | 8.875 | 45.375 | 54.25 |
| Wheaton | 1.295 | 9.83 | 14.125 | 25.25 | 60.25 | 85.50 |
| | | | | 99.04 | | 829.88 |

## TABLE NO. 15. — CLASSIFICATION OF SECRET FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS BY DISTRICTS

| District | Number of Lodges | Total Membership |
|---|---|---|
| Laytonsville | 1 | 60 |
| Clarksburg | 2 | 90 |
| Poolesville | 2 | 55 |
| Rockville | 3 | 247 |
| Colesville | 3 | 172 |
| Darnestown | 1 | 25 |
| Bethesda | 2 | 80 |
| Olney | 3 | 128 |
| Gaithersburg | 5 | 402 |
| Potomac | 1 | [58 |
| Barnesville | .. | .. |
| Wheaton | 1 | 82 |
| Damascus | 5 | 345 |
| Totals | 29 | 1,744 |

## TABLE NO. 16. — CLASSIFICATION OF OPEN FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS BY KIND

| Kind of Organization | Number of Local Organizations | Total Membership | Average Attendance |
|---|---|---|---|
| Farmers' Clubs | 2 | 28 | 50 |
| Card Clubs | 4 | 84 | 71 |
| Social | 4 | 100 | 80 |
| Literary | 5 | 99 | 70 |
| Temperance | 1 | 40 | 35 |
| Scientific | 4 | 48 | 35 |
| Book | 1 | 25 | .. |
| Mutual Improvement | 5 | 139 | 90 |
| Citizens' Improvement | 8 | 237 | 114 |
| Athletic Association | 3 | ... | ... |
| Others | 3 | 169 | 25* |
| Total | 40 | 969 | 580 |

*Including 1 without stated meetings.

## TABLE NO. 17.—CLASSIFICATION OF OPEN FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS BY DISTRICTS

| District | Number of Local Organizations | Total Membership | Average Attendance |
|---|---|---|---|
| Laytonsville | 4 | 79 | 58* |
| Clarksburg | .. | .. | .. |
| Poolesville | 3 | 52 | 40 |
| Rockville | 4 | 202 | 43† |
| Colesville | 2 | 54 | 60 |
| Darnestown | 1 | 18 | 12 |
| Bethesda | 8 | 238 | 109 |
| Olney | 2 | 33 | 36 |
| Gaithersburg | 2‡ | .. | .. |
| Potomac | .. | .. | .. |
| Barnesville | .. | .. | .. |
| Wheaton | 15 | 295 | 217 |
| Damascus | .. | .. | .. |
| Totals | 40 | 969 | 580 |

It is recognized that societies of this sort are often very evanescent. This is especially true of card clubs and social clubs; they come, flourish for a while and then vanish. Traces were found of crockinole clubs, flinch clubs and other similar clubs which had prospered in their day, but were now defunct. Consequently, it is almost unavoidable that such a list as is given above should err either in omission or inclusion. However, it is considered reasonably correct and complete.

## TABLE NO. 18.—ENROLLMENT OF WHITE SCHOOLS BY GRADES—WINTER TERM, 1911–1912

(In Schools Without High School Work:)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Grade 1 | 829 | Grade 5 | 461 |
| Grade 2 | 429 | Grade 6 | 403 |
| Grade 3 | 514 | Grade 7 | 296 |
| Grade 4 | 541 | Grade 8 | 40 |
| High school, all grades | 269 | | |

## TABLE NO. 19.—ENROLLMENT OF COLORED SCHOOLS BY GRADES—WINTER TERM, 1911–1912

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Grade 1 | 804 | Grade 5 | 112 |
| Grade 2 | 254 | Grade 6 | 39 |
| Grade 3 | 303 | Grade 7 | 9 |
| Grade 4 | 223 | | |

## TABLE NO. 20—THE TEACHING OF SPECIAL SUBJECTS IN THE WHITE SCHOOLS

| | Not At All | Little | Medium | Much |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nature study | 48 | 20 | 4 | 4 |
| Elementary agriculture | 57 | 13 | 4 | 2 |
| Domestic science | 68 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Manual training | 71 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Music | 52 | 19 | 4 | 1 |
| Drawing | 50 | 22 | 4 | 0 |

The figures refer to the number of schools in which these studies are taught

## TABLE NO. 21.—THE TEACHING OF SPECIAL SUBJECTS IN THE COLORED SCHOOLS

| | Not At All | Little | Medium | Much |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nature study | 20 | 8 | 2 | 0 |
| Elementary agriculture | 24 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| Domestic science | 21 | 7 | 2 | 0 |
| Manual training | 19 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
| Music | 13 | 14 | 3 | 0 |
| Drawing | 12 | 18 | 0 | 0 |

(The figures refer to the number of schools.)

* Including 1 without stated meetings.
† Including 2 without stated meetings.
‡ Without definite membership or stated meetings.

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## TABLE NO. 22.—HOW $1 OF THE SCHOOL'S MONEY IS SPENT

| | |
|---|---|
| Teachers' salaries | 52.6 cents |
| New buildings, repairs, furniture | 19.7 " |
| Indebtedness and interest | 6.5 " |
| Books and stationery | 5.2 " |
| Rent, fuel, incidental and sanitary expenses | 5.1 " |
| Supervision and office expenses | 2.8 " |
| Miscellaneous expenses | 8.1 " |
| | 100.0 |

## TABLE NO. 23.—THE ITEMS OF EXPENSE IN SCHOOL BUDGET

| | |
|---|---|
| White Schools: | |
| Apparatus, new buildings and repairs | $23,270.55 |
| Fuel, sanitary and incidental expenses | 5,220.25 |
| Teachers' salaries | 56,381.64 |
| Total | $99,771.59 |
| Colored Schools: | |
| Teachers' salaries | $5,852.69 |
| Repairs, fuel and incidental expenses | 2,595.39 |
| Total | $8,448.08 |

## TABLE NO. 24.—WHERE $1 OF SCHOOL'S MONEY COMES FROM

| | |
|---|---|
| County school tax | 39.4 cents |
| State school tax | 22.3 " |
| Free school fund and academic fund | 2.9 " |
| Free book fund | 3.4 " |
| Colored industrial fund | 1.2 " |
| High school fund | 5.4 " |
| Loans | 24.0 " |
| Other sources | 1.4 " |
| | 100.0 |

## TABLE NO. 25.—DENOMINATIONAL STRENGTH

| | Churches | Buildings | Ministers | Membership | Value of Property |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pres. U. S. A. | 9 | 8 | 6 | 815 | $67,500 |
| M. E. | 17 | 16 | 6 | 1,346 | 45,000 |
| Prot. Epis. | 16 | 16 | 11 | 1,043 | 106,400 |
| Baptist | 8 | 8 | 2 | 570 | 36,309 |
| M. E. S. | 17 | 17 | 7 | 1,769 | 65,348 |
| M. P. | 4 | 4 | 2 | 372 | 10,400 |
| Pres. U. S. | 2 | 2 | 1 | 113 | 16,300 |
| 7th D. Adv. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 406 | ..... |
| Friends | 2 | 2 | 0 | 291 | 6,500 |
| Xn. | 2 | 2 | 1 | 80 | 9,000 |
| Luth. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 40 | 3,000 |
| F. M. | 2 | 2 | 1 | 79 | 1,000 |
| Prim. Bapt. | 3 | 3 | 2 | 63 | 3,500 |
| Xn. Sc. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 | ..... |
| Cath. | 9 | 9 | 5 | 2,707 | ..... |
| | COLORED CHURCHES | | | | |
| Baptist | 7 | 7 | 4 | 209 | 2,660 |
| M. E. | 24 | 23 | 9 | 1,467 | 28,700 |
| A. M. E. | 9 | 7 | 5 | 305 | 5,900 |

## TABLE NO. 26.—THE COST OF THE CHURCH AND THE COST OF THE SCHOOL

| Protestant White Churches and Schools: | Churches | Schools |
|---|---|---|
| Total amount invested in property | $364,757.00 | $155,050.00 |
| Interest on this investment at 6% | 21,885.42 | 9,303.00 |
| Total cost of maintenance | 66,245.00* | 106,949.67 |
| Total number days in use per year—aggregate | 4,216 days | 14,288 days |
| Actual cost per day in use, per church or school | 15.71 | 7.48 |
| Cost per day—rent equivalent of interest on property | 5.19 | .67 |
| Total cost per day in use, per church or school | 20.90 | 8.15 |
| Colored Churches and Schools: | | |
| Total amount invested in property | $37,260.00 | $10,750.00 |
| Interest on this investment at 6% | 2,235.60 | 645.00 |
| Total cost of maintenance | 8,150.00* | 11,393.62 |
| Total number days in use per year—aggregate | 1,875 days | 4,200 days |
| Actual cost per day in use, per church or school | 4.35 | 2.71 |
| Cost per day—rent equivalent of interest on property | 1.19 | .15 |
| Total cost per day in use, per church or school | 5.54 | 2.86 |

*Benevolences excl.

Redfield Brothers, Inc
New York